BLACK WIND

by jay-guun

This is a korean webtoon and the original can be found at www.daum.net

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Black Wind ch 00

Credits

Translator: mantra
Proofreader: Ivries
Editor: Claudia
QC: Claudia

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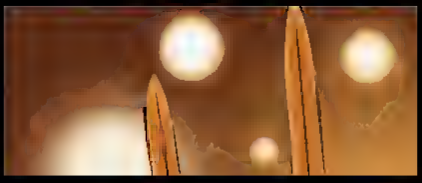
Dear Woo-Hyun,

Hello! How are you? It's already been more than a year since you left Britain.

Sometimes I think it would have been nice if you could have stayed here and continued to study with me.



These days, I've been so busy excavating that I have little time to think. Maybe that's why I've started to remember you more often after work.

Do you remember the stories I told you?

The witch stories, I mean.

Yeah, everyone laughed at my stories, but you were always right next to me, listening with a serious look on your face.

… Want to know something amazing? :)

I'm excavating the remnants of a witch.

As you know, history recalls the witch hunts as a phase of collective madness during the middle ages.

None of the victims were real witches.

That's why we remember the witch hunt as genocide and a tragedy of the middle ages.

Motivated by religious convictions and a struggle for political power, witch hunts were used as an excuse to rob the weak.

Those leading the hunts claimed that witches were in communion with the devil, that they spread disease, destruction and bloodshed.

But don't you sometimes wonder?

Why were people so afraid of witches?

How did they gain such a terrible reputation?

Were there really no witches from the start?

I don't think so many victims could result from pure fantasy.

There must have been a real witch hunt hidden behind the false one that ruined innocent people.

To dismiss this event as a mad era, a senseless age of slaughtering the defenseless...

...No. The sheer cruelty of the witch hunt indelibly draws the impression that it must have heen fueled by a real, justified fear.

Perhaps even you might laugh at this story.

It's a difficult subject. If we are to argue whether or not there were real witches involved, we must first presuppose that superhuman beings could have existed, and that would change all of human history.

Or perhaps superhuman influence has already interfered to create history as we know it.

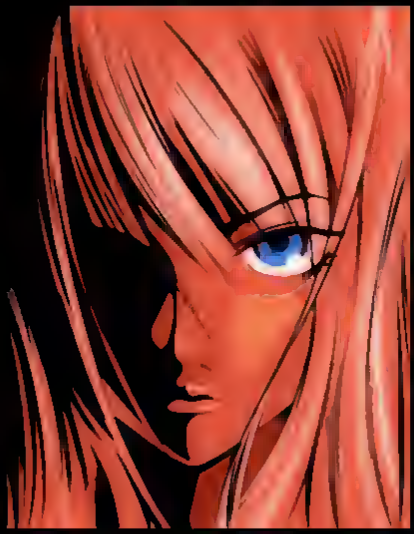
What if, in a long-lost age,
there were once beings different from us?

What if there was a time when we fought to secure supremacy of the land... a time of swords and magic?

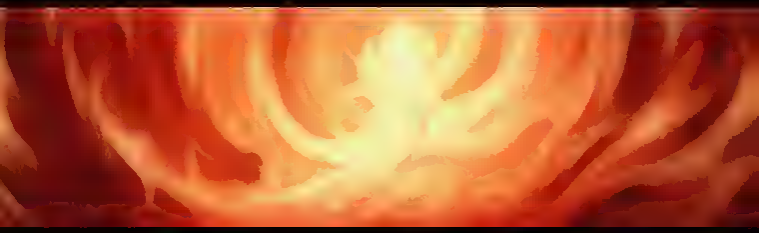
Maybe we have the wrong idea about witches.

It's possible that these witches were never humans to begin with, but were different beings from the start.

Or perhaps we shared a common ancestor but diverged very early in prehistory.

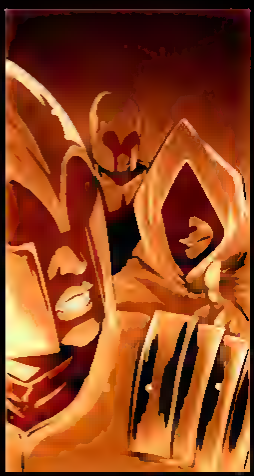


If they had existed, they would have been not only the victim of witch hunting but also the casualty of a greater tragedy completely erased from history.



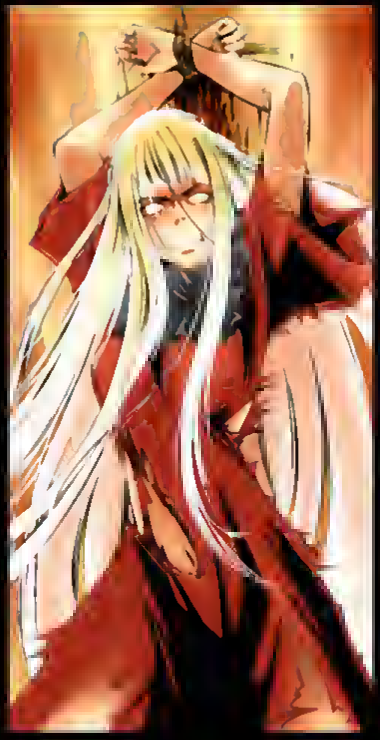
I believe the idea that we have always been the only sentient beings in this world is a terrible conceit. Unless we discard this sort of thought, we can never acknowledge the possibility of witches.

Perhaps we invented our own history after wiping out a unique hominid species.



I hypothesize that false witch hunting may have been a vestigial tradition resulting from that process. Even in modern history, we can continue to see examples of that practice in racism.

But... I'm sure a question has occurred to you by this point.



Like I said earlier, if the witches were as strong and terrifying as we think they were, shouldn't they have survived instead of us?

But we are the survivors.

How did they all disappear?

This is a major problem I'll have to resolve.

It's just that... My intuition tells me that someone was trying to erase the very existence of witches, destroy all evidence of them and leave them with a terrible reputation.

Perhaps witches were humans different from us that fought this force to the last moment.

If the writers of history and the rulers of this world had not been humans...

Wouldn't that make the humans the real victims of the so-called "witch hunts"?

And if the descendants of the forgotten witches uncover their history, wouldn't they seek to eradicate the human race?

Just as they were.

Woo-Hyun, I intend to prove the truth behind this fantastic story. I already have the first thread of evidence: artifacts that could have only belonged to a witch. It will verify everything I've told you so far.

Perhaps this time, even you might not believe it unless you see it for yourself.

That's why I want you to come here.
I want to show you first.

Once they see this, everyone will believe it.
No, everyone will know.

There is a real witch
in Roselum!

Next Saturday, I'll be waiting near the entrance of the Roselum city limits.

Reserve your airplane ticket right now, okay?!

I'll be waiting for you.

Your Dear Friend,
Dana

This work is fiction, and holds no direct relation with real people, location, religion or history.

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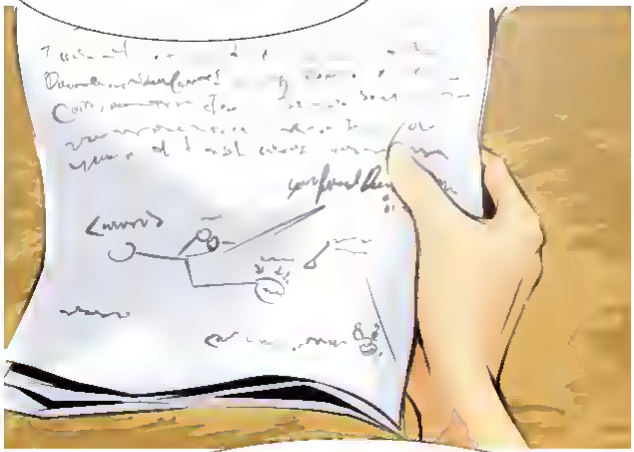
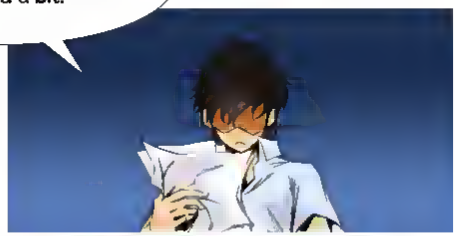
Sigh~ she's still the same.

Who sends handwritten letters these days...?



Though... "There is a real witch in Roselum" ...is she still searching for witches?

Ah! She really hasn't changed a bit.



I've already met six forks... exactly where is the "straightaway"?

Hmph~ Why is it so far away~ It's not like I'm searching for a princess kidnapped by a witch...

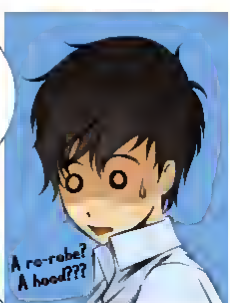
BLACK
블랙윈드
WIND
PANDORA

...Ah~ How can so much forest fit on a single island? Is there really a town here? I haven't seen a single car pass by...
...let alone a person

...If you're heading towards Roselum, you're on the right track. You'll able to see the town gates very soon.

!?

No cars must've made it hard for you. There are no vehicles in town during festival season in order to mimic the times when witches existed. As this is a small town it doesn't pose much of an issue.



Ah... is that so?

Ah! I suppose you didn't know we are in the middle of a witch festival? Haha, my strange clothes must have confused you.
slide

Roselum is currently having a witch festival, so the entire town has a Halloween atmosphere.
You'll see more ornaments like this as you get closer to the town. You won't lose your way if you follow those. We worked hard on them.

Being a small town, the people go all-out for festivals. We even prepare such costumes. Ah, once we enter the town you'll probably be able to ride a sightseeing carriage for a tour.
...This town must really like witches... to go through the trouble of having a festival!
Actually... it's the opposite.
What?

Only the tourists like it... In reality, the old witch hunts were intense here.
Their remnants still lie about.
Most people don't know as this is just a small island, but this place suffered through the harshest witch hunts in Europe, at least in proportion to the ratio of victims to population. That's why it has the nickname "Witch Island".

The vast amount of victims made it impossible to keep a death count. It's easy to find neglected graves like this.

To be honest, these can't even be called graves. They just dumped the bodies into holes and raised some tombstones.

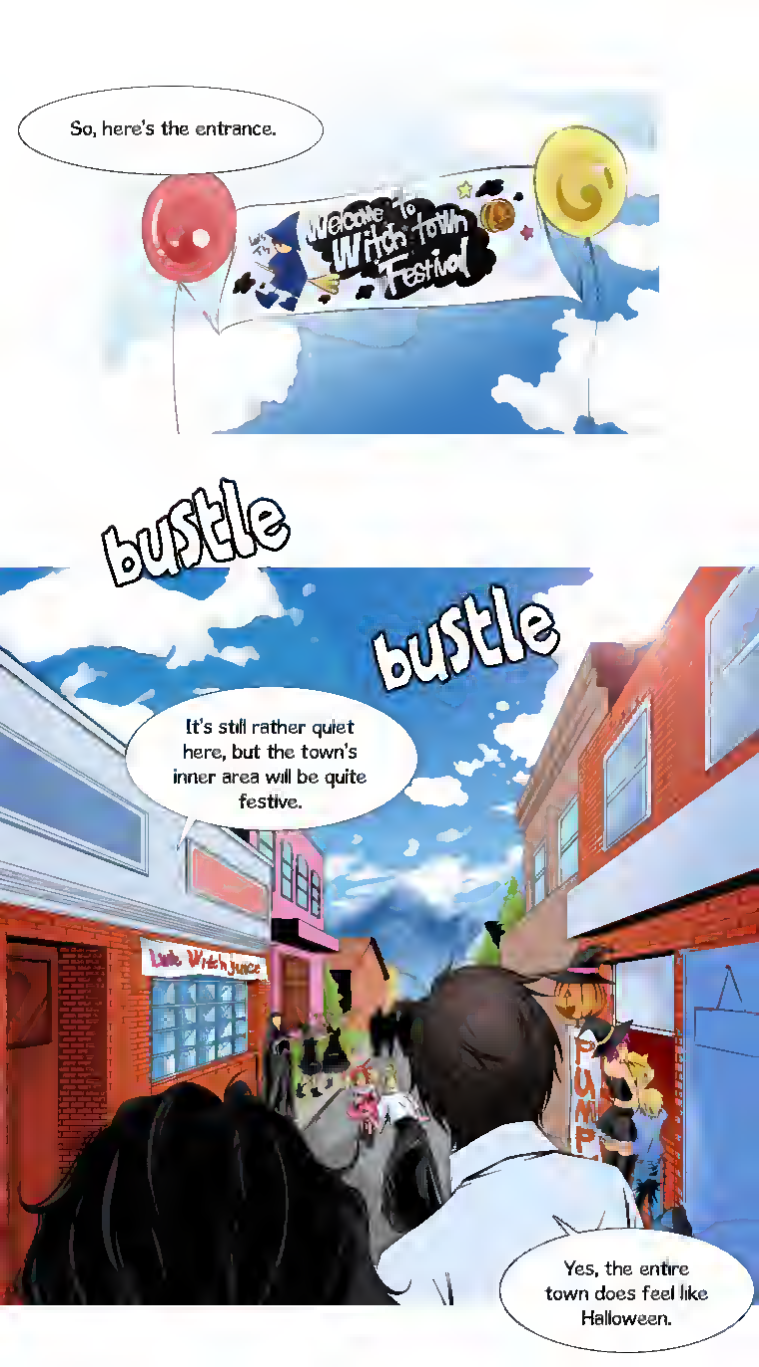
There were too many deaths to identify them all...

It is said that horror and resentment drove some victims to curse their killers, claiming they will reincarnate as real witches and take revenge.

Originally, the festival was to pacify these victims by the townspeople themselves becoming witches... but too many people gathered here due to the famous "Witch Island" nickname and now it's just a tourist trap...

Haha, oh my~ I really shouldn't be saying all this, considering I make a living off this festival. I hope I'm not ruining the mood for you?
Ah... haha, it's okay. I've learned a lot thanks to you.

A strange island where
the dark shadows of "witch
hunting" and the irony of a town
living off them coexisted.


So, here's the entrance.
Welcome to Witch Town Festival
bustle
bustle
It's still rather quiet here, but the town's inner area will be quite festive.
Little Witch Juice
PUMP
Yes, the entire town does feel like Halloween.

But... where is she? She said she'd be waiting near the entrance...
Then, I'll be off...
Ah, as the person you're waiting for isn't yet here, why not take a tour? Use the chance while you're here or else you'll regret once you're gone.
Ah!

Please! You helped me get here, so I can't just send you off like this...

I... it's okay! I only accompanied you, it's not like I helped much.

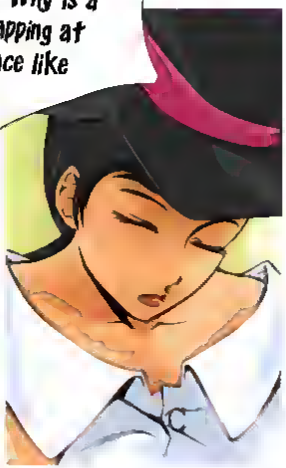
But... at least let me buy you a drink.

Hoho, I told you... It's nothing...

Still...

...

...Wait a minute! Why is a grown woman napping at midday in a place like this...?!



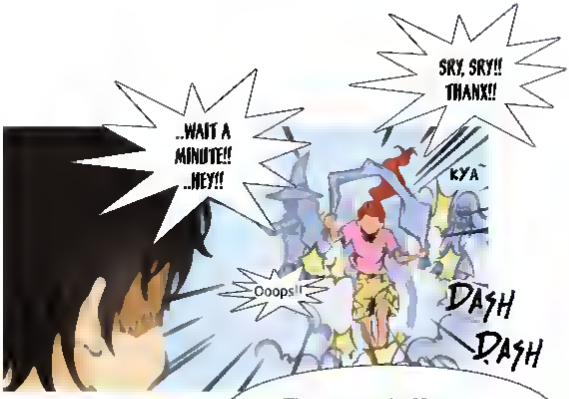
What? What're you..

...Young people these days just don't have any shame! Having her legs uncovered in a crowded place at a time like this...!!!
I can't just let this go! You should be on your way! I must wake her up and instill some discipline in her!
Hey, wake up! A youngster should be working, not sleeping when it's still bright! ...I reserved this spot for my booth!!
BLAH
BLAH
ZZZzzz
Ah.. then I'll be going..
Was I too annoying?
Yes, yes, I'm currently busy, so you should go...
glance

Ooh~ If Dana were here, she'd nag me for being so nosy... I guess I just annoyed him when he was already irritated.

Anyways... where is that girl? She's the one who arranged thi... eh?

bustle bustle



Those sound effects are familiar...

Waaaah! Woo Heun! You didn't get moody and leave for me just being a mere two hours late, did you? I had to write a paper last night... Err, no! My... my clock was broken... No, no... the car broke on the way here... Waaaaaaaaaaaah!!
Welcome WooHyun!!
sob sob
SORRY FOR EVERYTHING! WHERE ARE YOU, WOO HEUN?! BOOHOO, A MEAL'S WAITING FOR YOU AT HOME, COME BACK!
IF YOU ABANDON ME THE AIRPLANE TIRES WILL BURST BEFORE LIFTOFF~! COME BACK! BOOHOO~

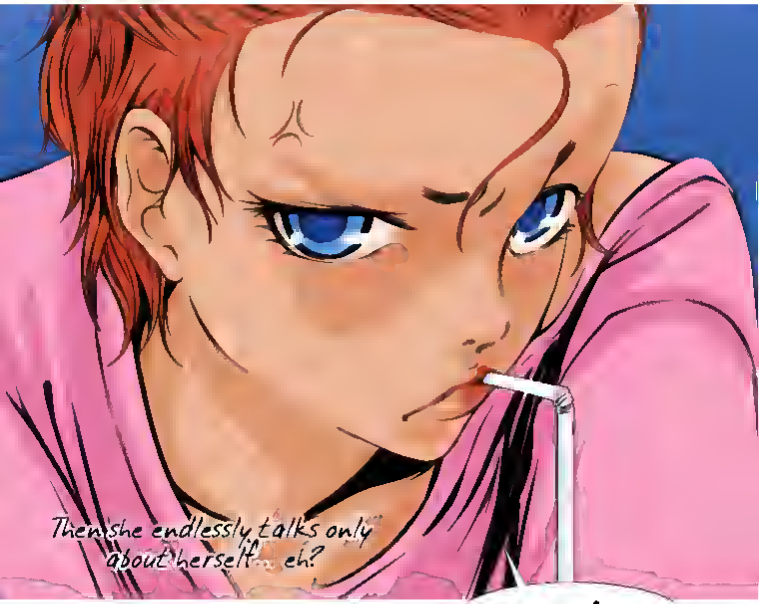
She hasn't changed at all...

Woo Heun!
Why are you so late when you made the appointment yourself?
DASH
...And why are your eyebrows..
I TOLD YOU TO WAIT BY THE ENTRANCE!
crack
Kuuuh-kuh! You... you were... the late one!

You really haven't changed at all...

Save me... T_T

...but she appears with a crude ponytail and baggy clothes.


Then she endlessly talks only about herself... eh?
HEY!

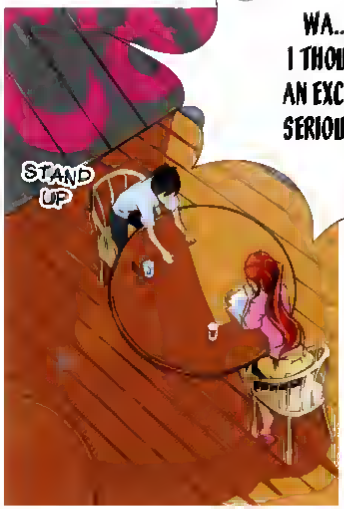
I ASKED YOU IF YOU WERE LISTENING TO ME!! IS IT A CRIME NOT TO WEAR MAKEUP? WHY DO YOU KEEP GLANCING UP AT MY EYEBROWS?!
BAM
ARGH! INNOCENT! INNOCENT!!

...I'm too busy for even sleep nowadays, let alone apply makeup!
But, enough... The thing I wrote about in my letter... the paper I'm preparing. You don't need for me to explain the details, right? I've told you multiple times.
...Of course. You lectured me nonstop while pulling my hair just like this almost daily!
...Yes.
I've been looking for evidence of real witches since university. The reason I was ridiculed was probably because I couldn't prove the existence of magic.

But, what if the idea itself was wrong from the start? Because we think that humans become witches, we can't recognize them as an entity with a power greater than humans. Same with magic. Do you get what I mean?
I do not mean witches in the Shamanist sense, but as a separate species. If magic-wielding "inhuman" humans existed from the beginning, witches wouldn't be as foreign a concept, would it?

Don't be shocked, but I found proof of the 'fact' no one else believes yet. I searched through locations of witch burnings using tales, legends, and records. And I've found it. A real witch's corpse.

Her old clothes and belongings were either decayed or burnt, but her body was as fresh as new. After over six hundred years, her body alone sat atop the other victims' ashes! As if she were about to reincarnate.

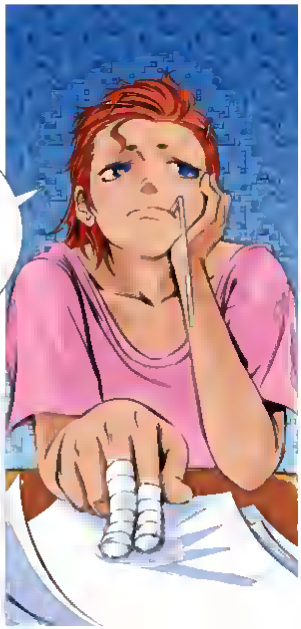


WA...WAIT! A... CORPSE?! I THOUGHT YOU DIDN'T HAVE AN EXCAVATION PERMIT YET?! SERIOUSLY, YOU...?! WITHOUT A PERMIT...?!

Ah, ah~ You're beginning to sound like Scully nagging Mulder.

I'm disappointed... And here I was going through all the trouble to tell you first...

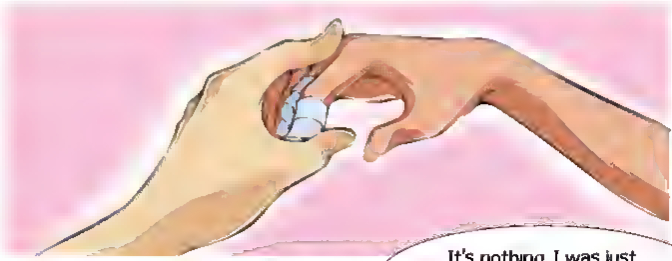
Officially, the victim hasn't been processed. She's unidentified! Though while I haven't yet gotten my permit, the town seems to be privately hoping that this excavation will lead to identifying some of the corpses...



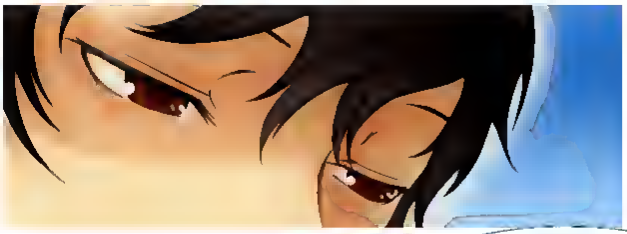
... Apparently, the victims of the witch hunting cursed the town back then. As you probably have notice, in such an uncomfortable atmosphere, they are glad to let someone else do their dirty work. In their eyes I'm doing a good deed, though that's not why I'm doing this.

You...

Why is your hand like this? It's full of wounds...



It's nothing. I was just overexcited due to the excavation.



Really... you haven't changed. You're still so headstrong...

You're the one who hasn't changed. It's only a scratch, yet you act as if I have some horrible sickness.

I... I'm not a kid. I won't be hindered by something like...

...Wait!

WHAT TIME IS IT...?! I PROMISED THAT I'D SEND OVER AN IMPORTANT SAMPLE THIS AFTERNOON!

F...five thirty!

WHAT?! YOU'RE TELLING ME THIS NOW?!

...What? What?! Is it my fault?!

THE PROFESSOR WILL KILL MEEE! I'VE RAN OUT OF EXCUSES...!!

I have no choice! I must return to the excavation camp! The only one who believe my research is Professor Luther. He's my last hope!

There's a map to my lodging place on the letter I gave you, so go there first. Then, I'll be off~
...Eh?
SWOOSH

Uwah... I was completely fooled...
She just runs off to work after leaving me in such a place... Why am I here?
PLOP

I guess spending twelve hours in a plane to see her for only two make me the dumb one...

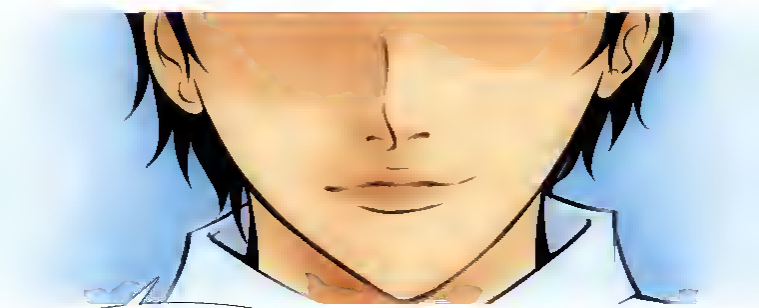
Yes, of course, she does have enough common sense to

GO BEFORE IT GETS DARK, AS A REAL WITCH MAY APPEAR AT NIGHT~! IT'LL BE TROUBLE IF YOU'RE CAUGHT~! AHAHA! I'LL BE AT THE LODGING PLACE BY TOMORROW AFTERNOON, SO LET'S TOUR THE TOWN THEN~ BYE-BYE~!

Is that a jinx?!

I spent twelve hours in a plane for this...

...



...Idiot.

You are the witch.

Getting me to smile after just two hours, even after being in a plane for twelve...

Evil witch...

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2nd Place Winner

Artwork: Munching_chibi by cannonr aka milazngirl

http://milazngirl.deviantart.com/

CONTEST

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BLACK WIND

by Jay-guun

This is a Korean webtoon and the original can be found at www.daum.net

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Black Wind ch 02

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Cleaner: HarukaDD
Typesetter: Claudia
QC: Claudia

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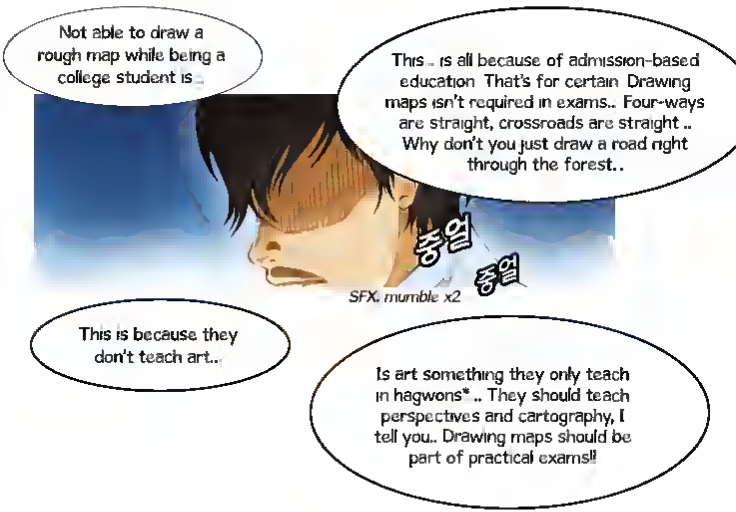
Urgh...

This way...? No... that way?
Glance
Glance

.....

I've been in this forest searching for my lodging for four hours...


Not able to draw a rough map while being a college student is..
This.. is all because of admission-based education. That's for certain. Drawing maps isn't required in exams.. Four-ways are straight, crossroads are straight.. Why don't you just draw a road right through the forest..
중얼
중얼
SFX. mumble x2
This is because they don't teach art..
Is art something they only teach in hagwons*.. They should teach perspectives and cartography, I tell you.. Drawing maps should be part of practical exams!!

*TN: Korean afterschool academies

My head is filled with nonsensical complaints. But there is only one conclusion.

But... I don't know the way back...

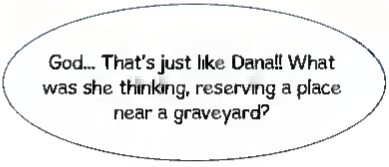
From my long walk, I've realized that this really is a strange place. While the town is full of people celebrating, a jungle-like forest is waiting just outside of it.

Except for the town I saw this afternoon it feels like there is nothing but forest

The few people I meet are all wearing strange costumes...

*Originaly in English

The things I see are never what I expect.



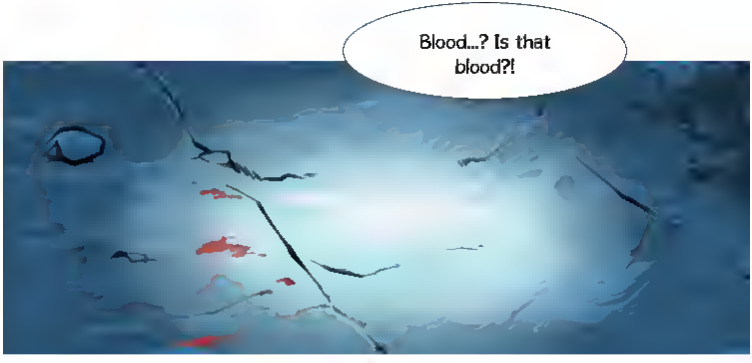
I know there is an unfortunate story within these graves, but... walking through a graveyard in the middle of night... it still freaks me out..
오싹
오싹

SFX: shiver shiver

Having a festival about witches on one side, cursing them on the other...

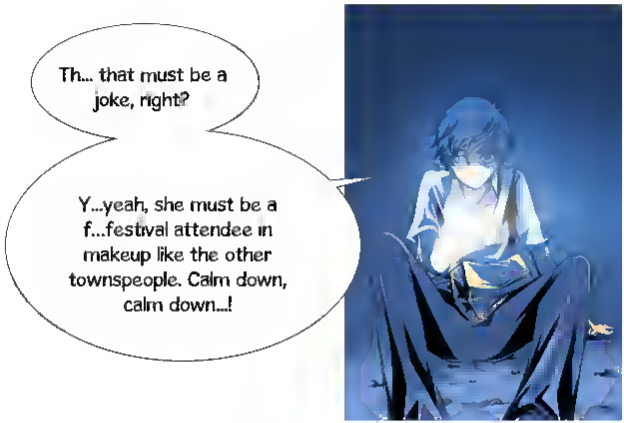
I just want to escape this place, this home for the dead... eh?
SHOCK
Wha.. what?!

Something... was dragged through here...


Blood...? Is that blood?!

Wh... what am I about to encounter...?

...EEK!!! A CO...COFFIN?!
WHITE HAIR?!


Th... that must be a joke, right?
Y...yeah, she must be a f...festival attendee in makeup like the other townspeople. Calm down, calm down...!

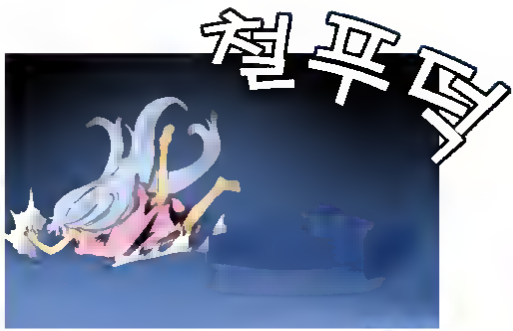
SFX: waking up

SFX: shock

흠칫

SFX: helter-skelter

SFX: dash

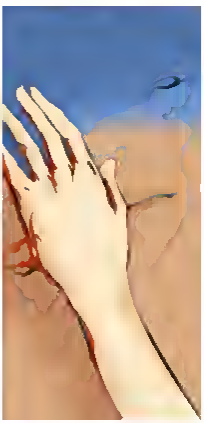


SFX: thud

...

I... I guess she isn't a ghost...

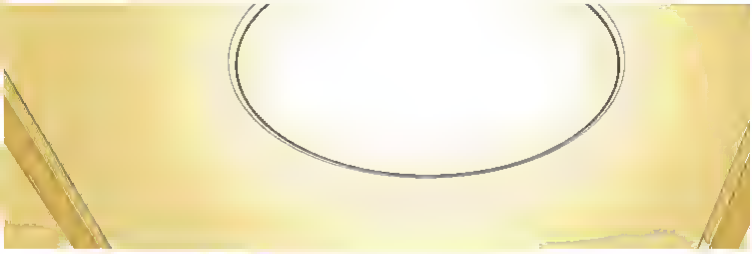
...Is this my fault?
Why is she the one running away when I was the one surprised...?

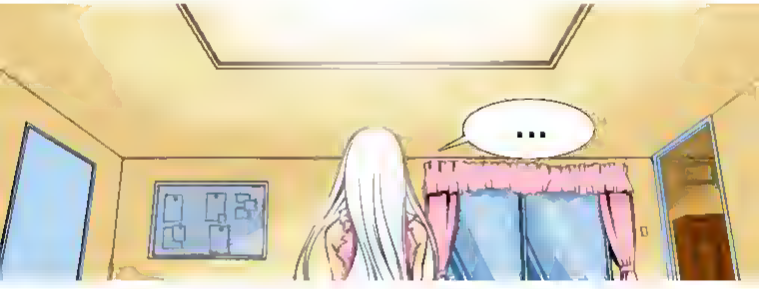


Uuu~ That isn't real blood, is it? .. It looks painful...

Hello?

...
She looks normal enough, so why is she going around like this?
Hello~! Wake up!!
Hello~





Are you awake??

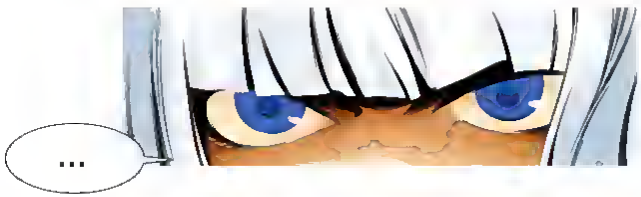
You were lucky. I was going to ask for help, but haha~ I stumbled upon the place I was looking for.

She must have neglected the house a bit. There isn't much to eat. Would you like a cup of coffee?

Uuaa... She's glaring at me! Is she misunderstanding something?

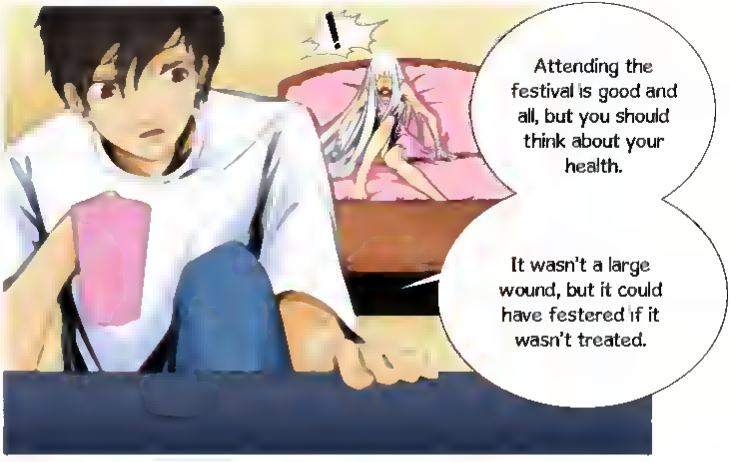
Ju..just so you know, except for cradling you (very lightly) out of necessity to carry you...n... nothing happened! Ha...ha... you couldn't even call that cradling~

I can't meet her eyes when she is glaring at me like that. even though I haven't done anything wrong!!



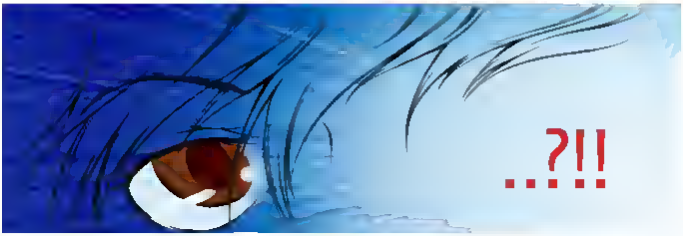
...We don't have a choice, do we?

What's inside this coffin?
It felt pretty heavy.


Attending the festival is good and all, but you should think about your health.
It wasn't a large wound, but it could have festered if it wasn't treated.

I can do first aid because my friend always got hurt, but you really should have a doctor look at it.
CREAK

You shouldn't leave a scar on your pretty hands... urgh?!
Wh...what? It reeks of mold...



The thing inside the coffin is...?!

Kang Woo Heun! You idiot.

In an unfamiliar place... Letting a stranger in so casually...!!

This woman is certainly...

쨍그랑

SFX. crash

...damn!

Ah! No matter..
Something must have
dropped, that's all.

Ahaha~ I'm not a
child~ you don't have
to worry so much.

Just please take good care of the sample I'm sending you. Yes...I know. Haha~ If it's not real, you might have to come pick me up at a police station. It's just a joke, haha. Yes, I'm certain. This is destiny. I have to open the lid, just like Pandora.

I'm certain that the "hope" I am looking for is inside here. Yes, it's okay. Then..

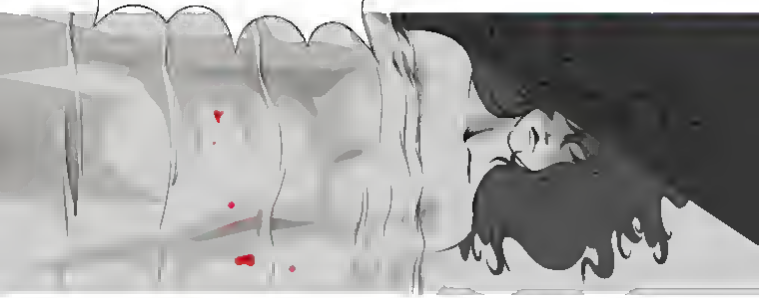
...

Of course not!! I'm certain of it, but... I'd have been happy to find just remains or traces from the excavation. I didn't expect such an unblemished corpse...
Should I have asked for help after all? I'm a bit squeamish about cutting up a corpse... If by any chance this is a murder-related- or abandoned corpse, and not a witch... I could be guilty of corpse mutilation...?!
오싹
SFX: shiver

MA...MAYBE HER GHOST WILL HAUNT ME?!
A... Ah?!
Shock

.. Uuah! ...ah!!
허우적
Eh?! Ehhhh?!
허우적
SFX. fumble fumble
Ehhhhhhhhhhhh!!!

What are you doing, Dana?! Wake up! This is a witch's corpse! I'm certain of it!! Who will believe in you if you don't?! No, no— That's not it. Now you've cut yourself. Why did you grab that knife?!



Boohoo. I'm bleeding... Woo Heun~~ boohoo... (sniff) He...he will be angry at me, won't he?

ba-thump

(sniff)... Where did I leave the bandage...?

스으으

SFX: spreading

화아아악

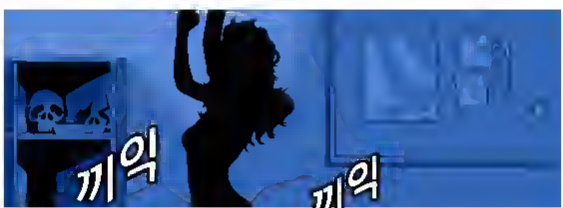
SFX: permeating

...Hi?

...No one around?

Hmmm...

I was hoping for fresh, open air, but this seems even staler than before. What is this weird room? The bed feels like a hunk of metal...

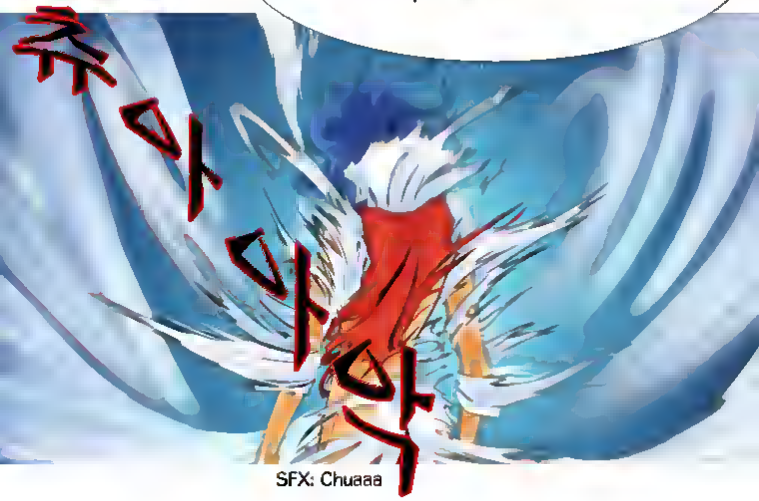


Sfx: squeak squeak

Anyway, it was a good idea to pretend to have been hunted by the humans, kuku. I escaped their notice thanks to that.

A few pennies and they don't even burn the body before burial... kuku. I guess humans didn't understand why "they" burnt those witches. Of course, I was able to open my eyes again thanks to that...

Those fools, ruling the world? Hahaha!! Well then~ shall I go and see how much they've ruined the world?



SFX: Chuaaa

Heh~, I have a good idea.

I'll make them a much better world.
A world full of human screams...
Kukuku. I'll make them remember
our dying screams.

Just wait and see...

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by ProsperPl aka 9 19
http://prosperpl.deviantart.com/

BLACK WIND

by Jay-guun

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Black Wind ch 03

Credits

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Proofreader: Kazuki
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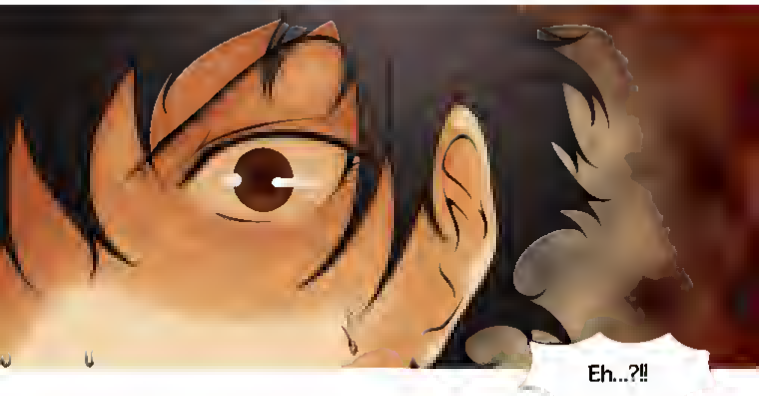
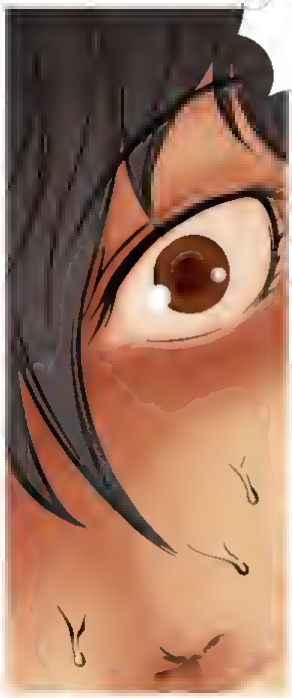
Haa...



This... this woman...!!

BLACK
블랙윈드
WIND
PANDORA
...!!

She's crazy!!



...!!

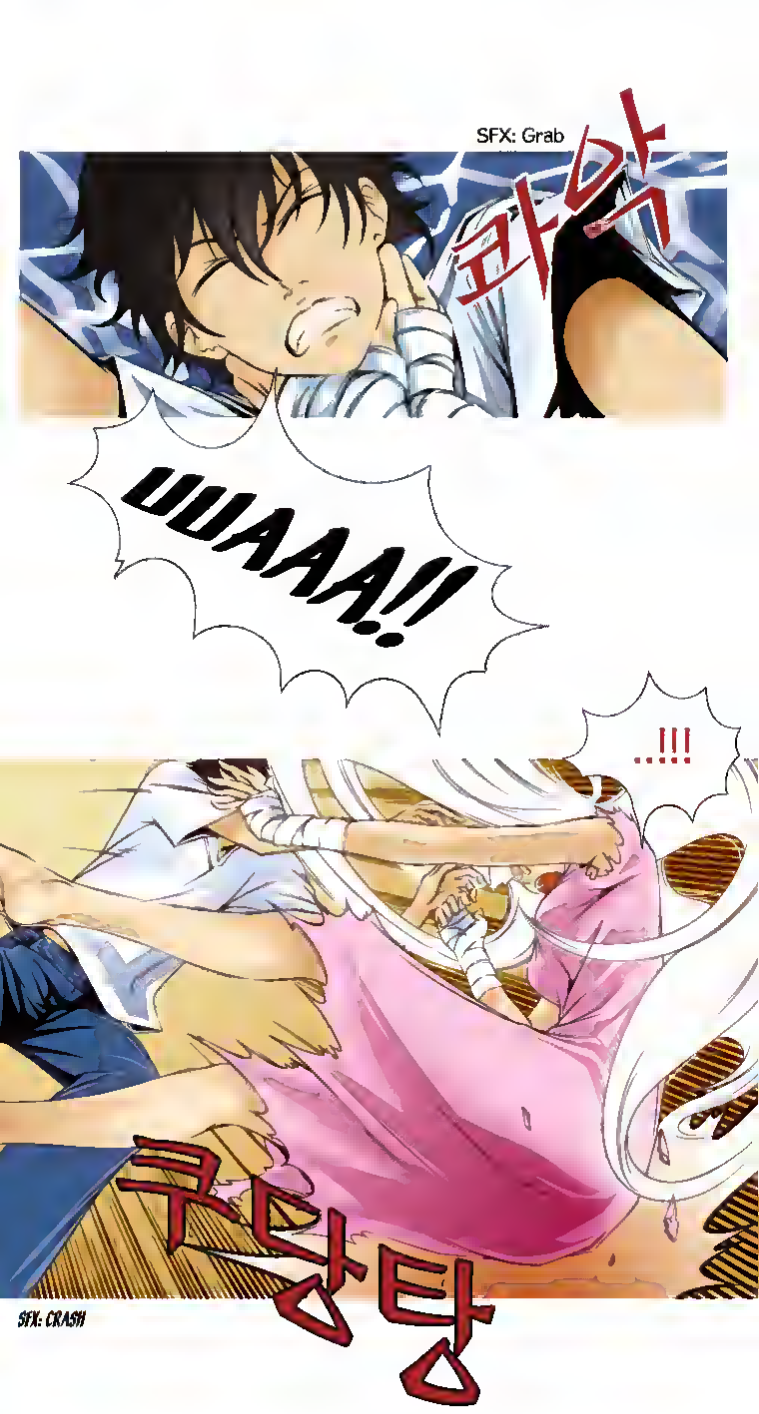
The.. the thing inside the coffin is definitely... something greatly decayed..

She's not.. just dressed as a witch...

She's a psycho..!!

I.. I might die for real!!

KU....AH..!!


SFX: Grab
파악
WAA!!
..!!!
쿠당탕
SFX: CRASH

First_ I must calm her down somehow

I wasn't thinking of touching the thing inside... What!? What-what are you...?
GRRRR!!
Grab

SFX Woosshh
Wait a sec...
I'M SORRY!!
I TOLD YOU I WAS SORRY!!
I WON'T TOUCH THE COFFIN AGAIN!!!
SFX shwoosh

CRASH

..!!

...

...!

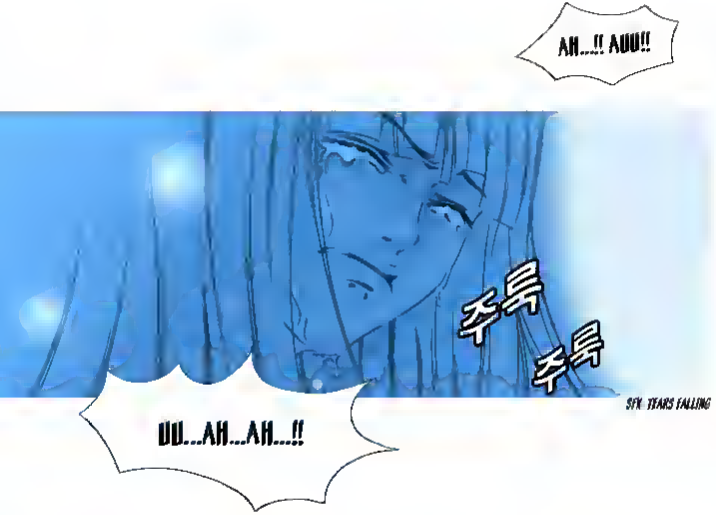
...

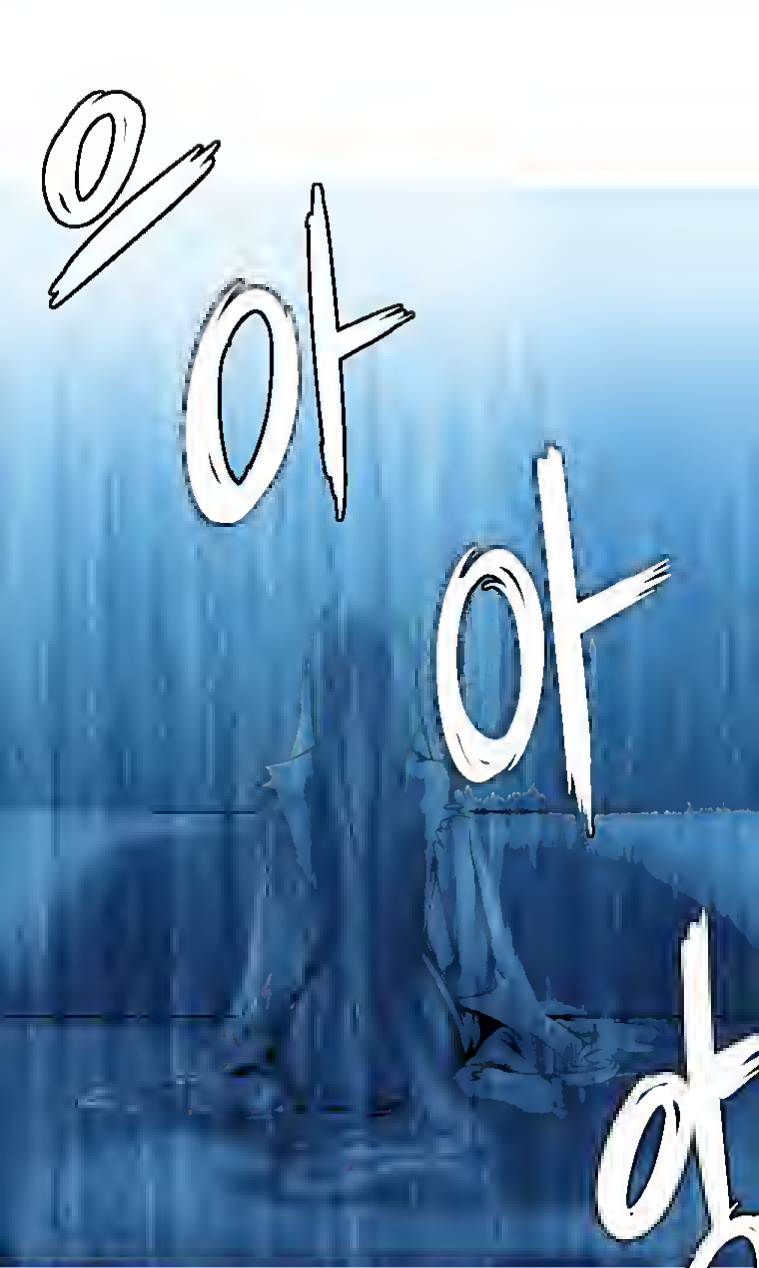
I'm... alive?!

I guess she isn't crazy enough to kill...

...Anyway, I need to get out of here quickly. This is my only chance! If she goes berserk again, I'm finished!

...
...Calm . calm down... I won't go near the coffin again...
SFX: inch inch
..ever again...
...
...Aww...

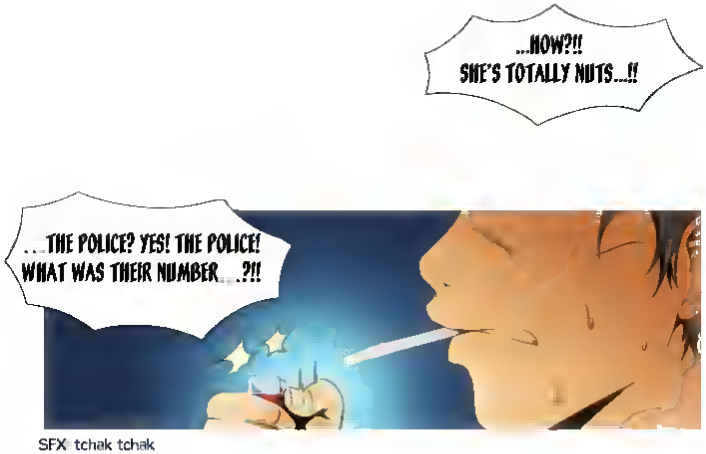

AH...!! AUU!!
주룩
주룩
SFX: TEARS FALLING
UU...AH...AH...!!



SFX. Uwaaaaaaaah

SFX: creak

I need to escape...!!
But...



In that foreign land, I didn't know where to escape to, let alone the police telephone number....

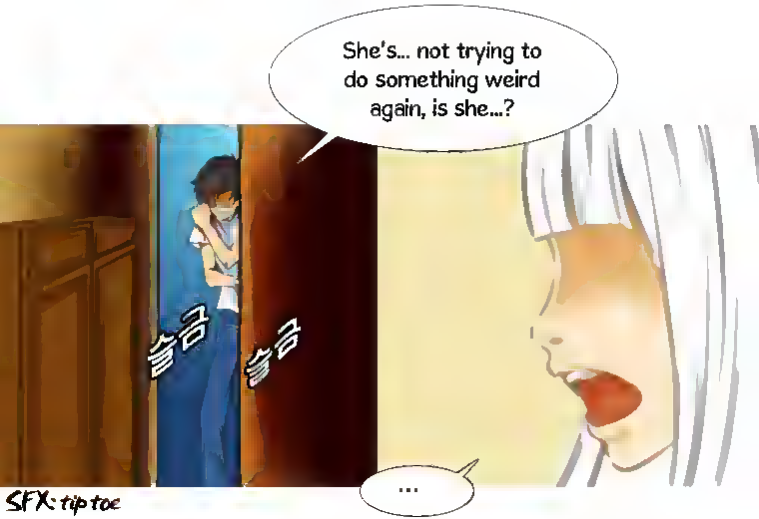
Most of all...

...Dana?!!
SFX shock
If that clumsy dolt comes home now, I don't know what that woman will do to her...!!
No! I can't let that happen!!
First, I need to contact Dana!!

Perhaps...

...This was the last chance
I had to escape from
everything that was going to
happen to me...

Dana!! Dana!!
Pick up the phone...
dammit!!
Did you put your cell in the fridge again?! Pick up the phone, you 23-year-old, demented granny!! I might die at this rate...
....?!
For some reason...
It seems quiet..?



SFX: tip toe

...Loud, too loud

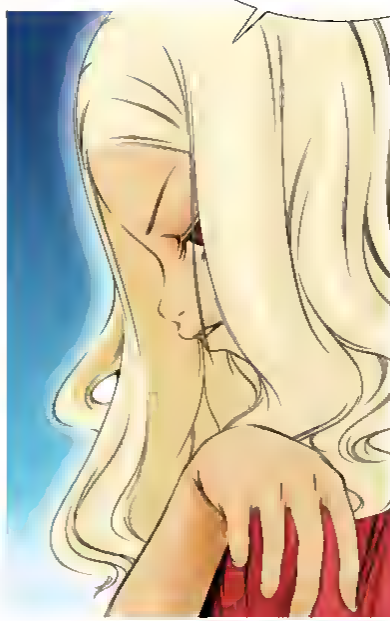
...LOUD!!
YOU'RE ALL TOO LOUD, SHUT UP!!
..!!
A-A CHILD INSIDE THE COFFIN..??!!!
A LIVE CHILD WAS HIDING IN THE COFFIN FOR OVER TWO HOURS?!

Then what was the thing I saw inside the coffin?! It was horribly decayed...

A-a broom?!

No Way.

I told you you're too loud three times already. How many more times do I have to tell you? If you make any more noise, I'll shove it in your mouth.



Acting as he pleases
and that superficial appearance .
He's certainly a human .

sfxswoosh

Shall I go and see what business the humans have with a "witch"?

Once again... witch mania...

FIRST... DON'T MOVE A MUSCLE!! IF YOU TRY ANYTHING WEIRD, I'LL KILL YOU!!

처억

WHO ARE YOU?! WHY DID YOU MOVE MY COFFIN WITHOUT PERMISSION? HOW DID YOU FIND IT? NO, HOW DID YOU KNOW I WAS A WITCH?!

NO...A HUMAN CAN'T DO THAT! WHO ORDERED YOU?! DID "THEY" ORDER YOU?! IF YOU LIE...

...Hey, You. Quiet down. You're getting on my nerves. If you cry loudly, I'll punish you!!

SFX. sob sob

...I TOLD YOU I'LL PUNISH YOU!!!!

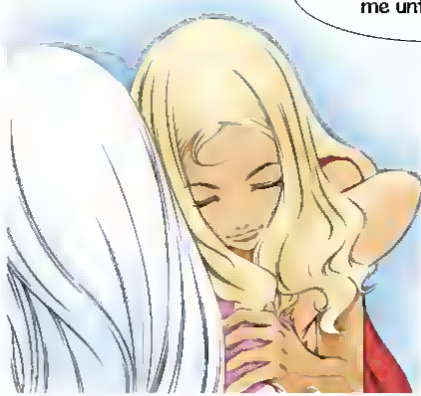
UUAAAAAU~!!

WHA-WHAT ARE YOU DOING!! ARE YOU CHALLENGING ME?! DO YOU WANT TO FIGHT?!!

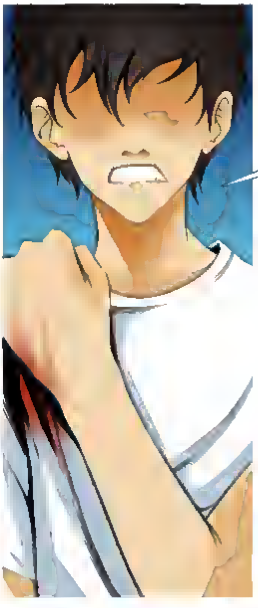
SFX: shock

It...was you...

Yes... You protected me until now...



Wha-what is this strange bright atmosphere...??



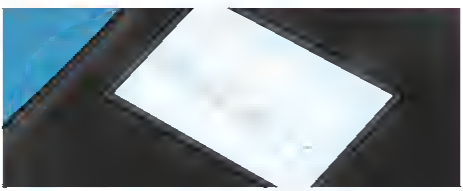
...I save a person on the street, and what I receive is a choking, a wound in my shoulder, and a broom in the face...

Now, a full-grown woman is smiling like a toddler inside the embrace of a child...

I hate it...
I hate this town!!
It's full of psychos...

SFX sparkle sparkle

Witch expert... Pick up the phone quickly...
At this rate, even I might go crazy because of witches...



.....

SFX: slide
스으윽
...
스으윽
SFX: slide
...KUKUKU!!
SFX: slide
스으윽
TCH, TCH

One shouldn't forget one's savior...
...

WOO HEUN...!!

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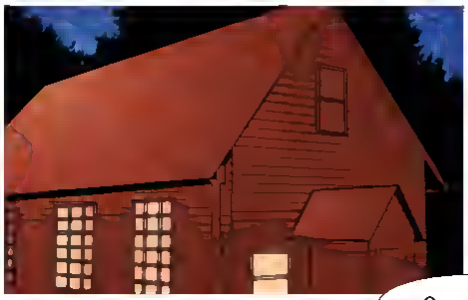


So...
That white haired woman over there... Protected the coffin for nearly six hundred years... and you... finally woke up after all that time?
So you are...

Luckily, the wound doesn't seem serious...

...A witch!
SFX: MUNCH MUNCH
To be exact,
the girl has my "witch" body,
and I have her "human" body.

I don't like us being called "you" or "that woman"... Alright, I'll let you know our names. I'm Jeanne. The girl is Anne.
FWSSSSSH
I'm telling you now; you better not speak to me casually because I look small. I'm older than your grandmother's grandmother's grandmother!

Obviously...

The truth is... I'm not the owner of this house. I can't just let guests in.

...I don't know if you feel excited about this situation, but I'm very tired from traveling so far and I'm not very interested in this town's festival.
So what I'm saying is, while you are free to enjoy your meal at your leisure, you should head back after eating, ma'am.

...patience, patience!!

Whatever the circumstances,
shouting and browbeating a
child is...

Not something I want...!!

I'M TALKING ABOUT YOUR HOME!! WHERE YOUR PARENTS ARE WAITING!!
SFX: SLAM
EVEN IF YOU ARE A CHILD, I'VE HAD ENOUGH OF THIS NONSENSE! THERE ARE LIMITS TO EVERYTHING!
DO YOU KNOW WHAT YOU HAVE DONE?! I'M TEMPTED TO CALL THE POLICE!!

AND TO THINK I TOOK PITY ON YOU FOR HAVING TO BE AROUND A CRAZY WOMAN AT THIS HOUR!

You...

슈슉

SFx: SWISH

...!!

I told you not to speak to me disrespectfully! Do I look so pathetic that I would need pity from a human?!
...I can't restrain myself twice, so bear it in mind, alright?!

Y-yes!!
Don't underesti-
mate a witch! Do you
think I'd ask for help
from a lowly human?!
...

Chapter 4

...Are all the kids nowadays like that?

Sfx: Swoop, Swoop

Shouldn't she have left by now, with all the coaxing and shouting I've done..?!

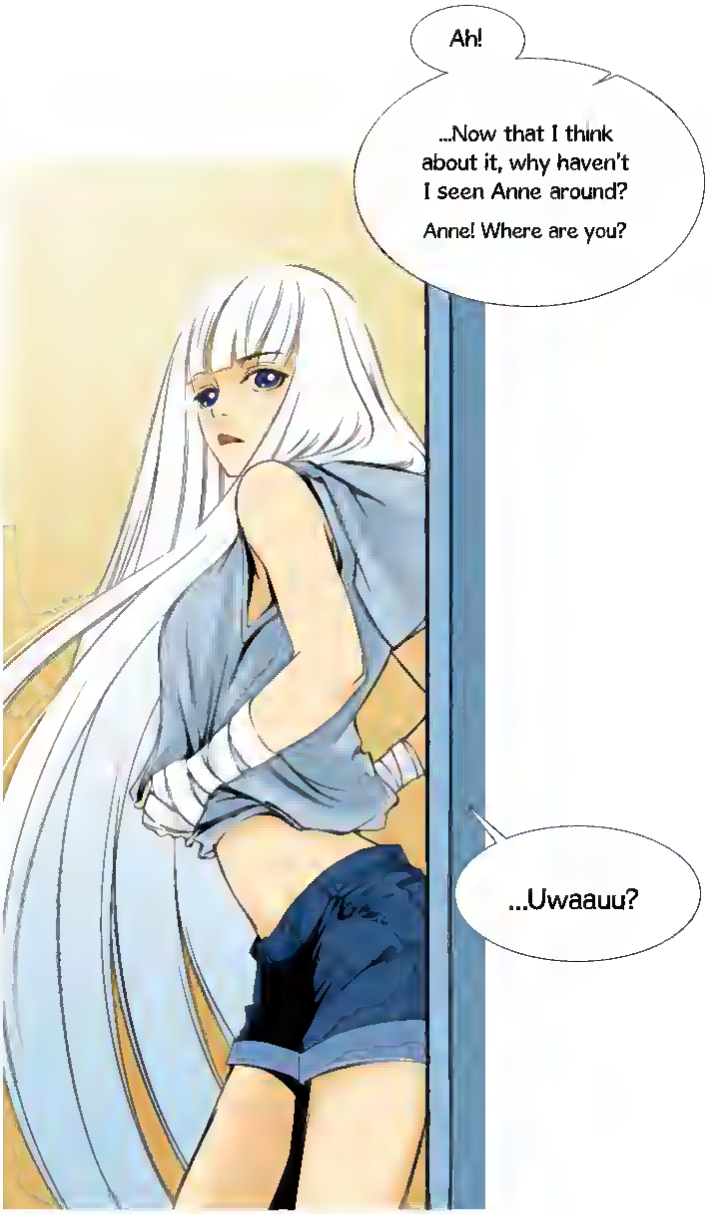
What kind of kid is she?

Hey, human! What are you doing here, exactly?

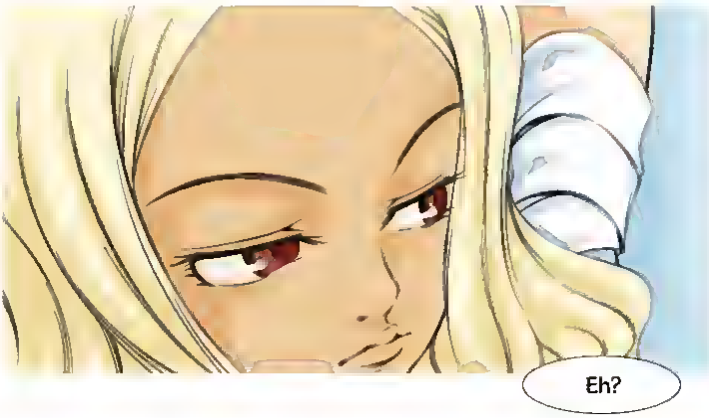
I've already said..!!
Ahem...!
I've already told you, ma'am. I'm just a tourist...

Sfx: flinch

Hmm~~
Then how did I wake up again?
I must have become a human after swapping bodies with Anne...


Ah!
...Now that I think about it, why haven't I seen Anne around?
Anne! Where are you?
...Uwaauu?

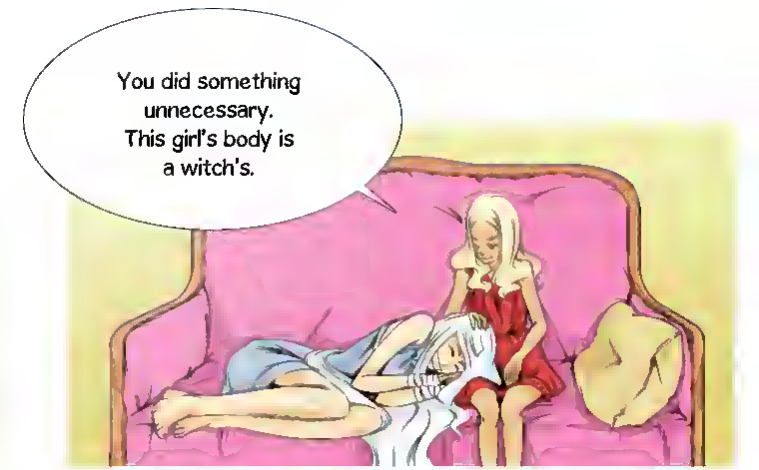
Hmmmmm!!
Why do humans wear these things nowadays?
So much exposed skin... Where are the airy and ample clothes of past?
UWAAUU~~ AAH~
폴짝
HAHAHA~~ ANNE! WHAT ARE YOU DOING~ YOU SHOULDN'T ACT LIKE THAT TO AN ELDER~~
Sfx: jump

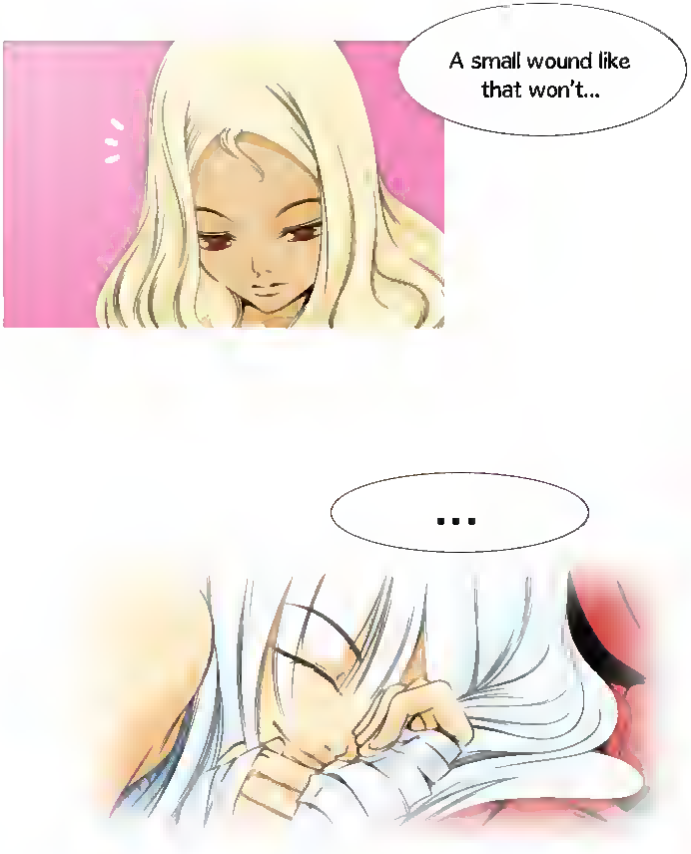

Eh?

Hey, human!
Did you treat the girl?
She will have to go to a hospital for real treatment but she should be okay... ma'am!

I'm used to things like this due to someone who gets hurt just about every day...
Ah! The clothes are just being lent to you, so I'd prefer it if you gave them back later. They are not mine, they belong to the owner of the house...

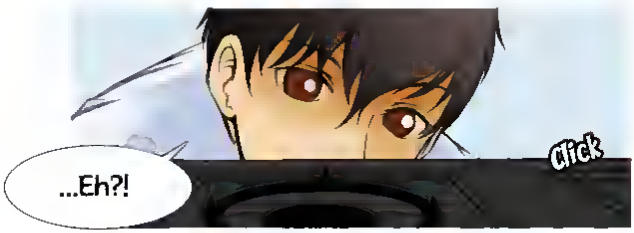
They aren't going to stay the night, are they? Since Dana's coming back tomorrow I really have to send them away...




A small wound like that won't...
...

Hey, human!
Just a moment... ma'am?! why is this so difficult?

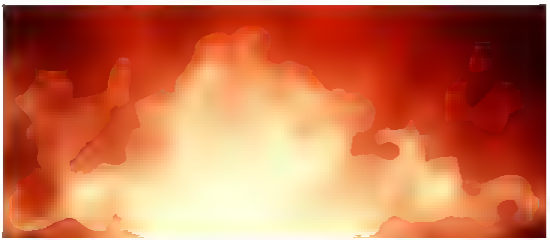
...Thanks


...Eh?!
Click

Sfx: BOOM

UUAAUU!!!!
WH-WHAT?!!
SO SUDDENLY!!
I HATE...
I HATE THIS TOWN!!
SFX: CRACKLING

Why are they causing such a ruckus? Are they trying to burn down the town for the festival?
...THAT'S NOT IT!!! THE WHOLE TOWN IS ON FIRE?!



STEP STEP

A city built on our ashes.

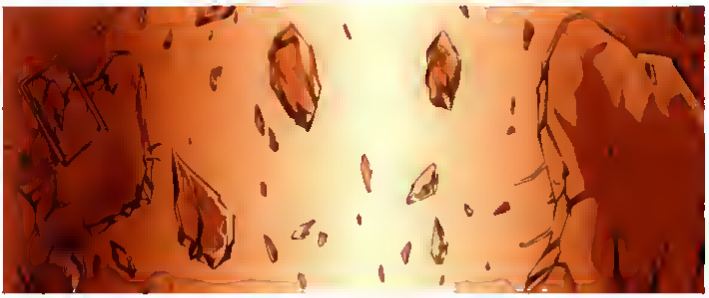
SFX: BURNING

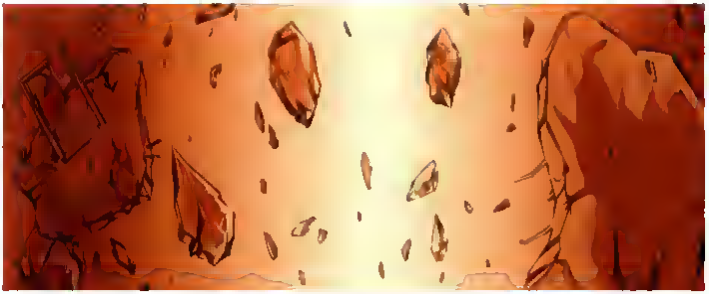
A history earned
by cursing us.

SFX: BAM

A world stolen from us!!

SFX: CRASH

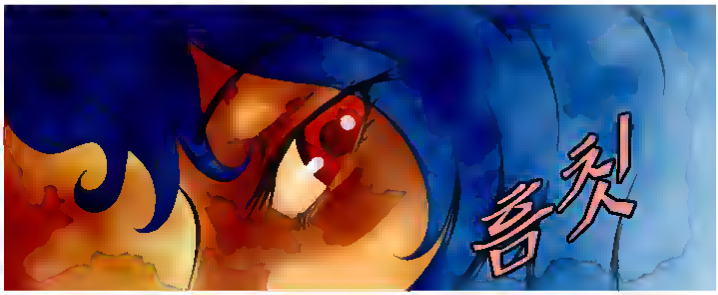




Humans...
You think that history now was built by yourselves alone.
You foolish humans don't even know what it is built upon...

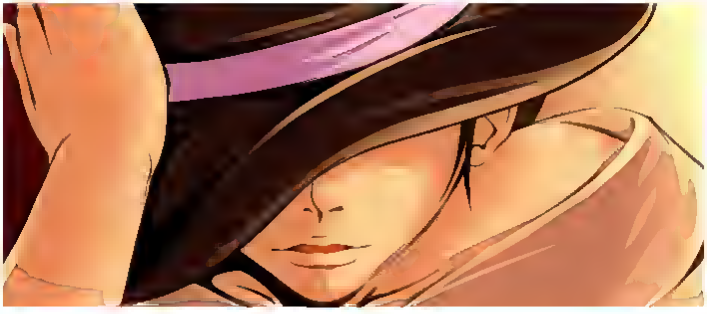
As you have done to us, your corpses will serve as nutrients...
...for our history to grow once more

You're late! What are you gibbering on about?



Waiting is so tiring. It's been so long that I almost forgot what I was here for.

Now, there's no time.
Let's begin.



We need to have
enough fun to make up
for all this time!

Right?

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BLACK WIND

by jay-guun

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Credits

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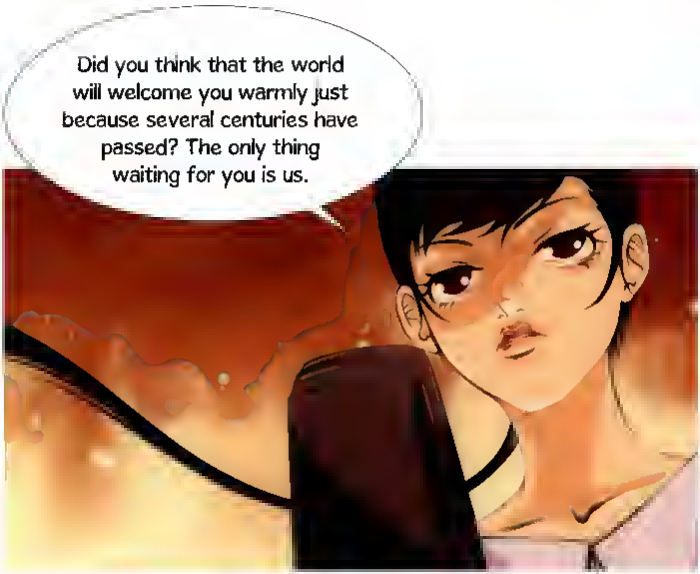
Huh...? Amazing!
A human that survived those flames...? Has 600 years changed humans?

Idiot!
You think I'm a normal human, even when you see the corpses beneath my feet?


Did you think that the world will welcome you warmly just because several centuries have passed? The only thing waiting for you is us.

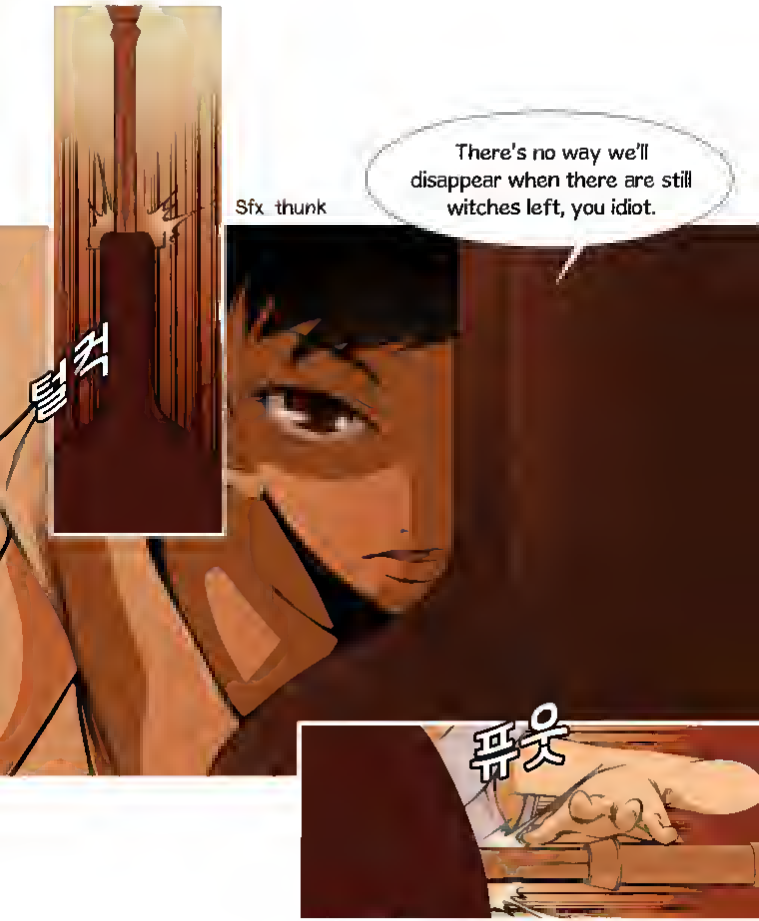
Yes... As you were still looking for witches...
You... Witch killers...
KNIGHT TEMPLARS!!!

Sfx whoosh

과과과광
Sfx Boom
WHY... WHY?!
WASN'T YOUR GOAL ALSO TO TAKE OVER THIS LAND?! YOU SHOULD HAVE DISAPPEARED LIKE US, NOW THAT HUMANS HAVE CONTROL OVER THE HISTORY OF THIS LAND! WHY ARE YOU STILL HERE?!

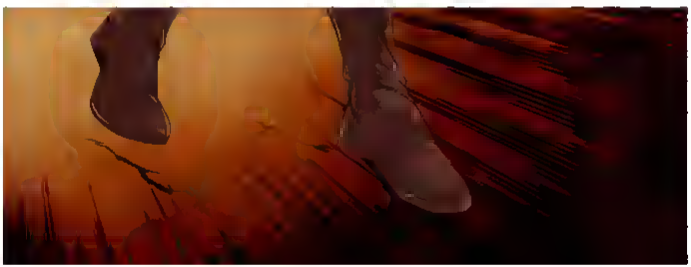
Because there are still witches left...

Chapter 5


There's no way we'll disappear when there are still witches left, you idiot.
Sfx: thunk
털컥
퓨웃

Sfx: woosh

I knew you would appear somewhere around here long ago. I know all the dirty tricks of the likes of you.

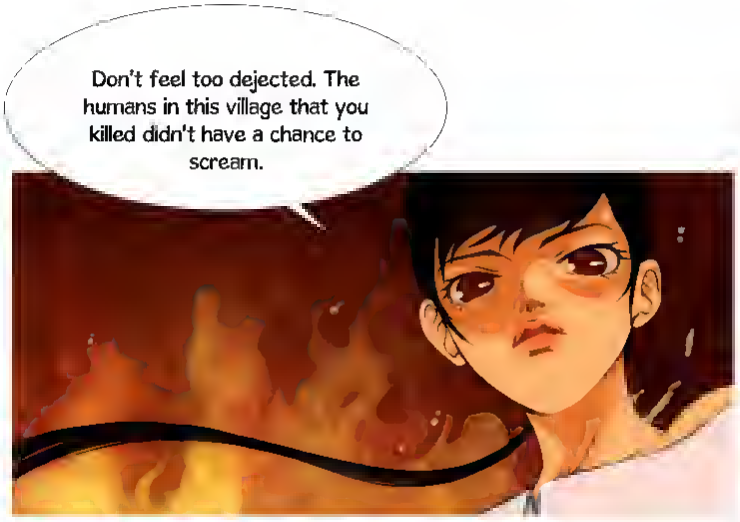


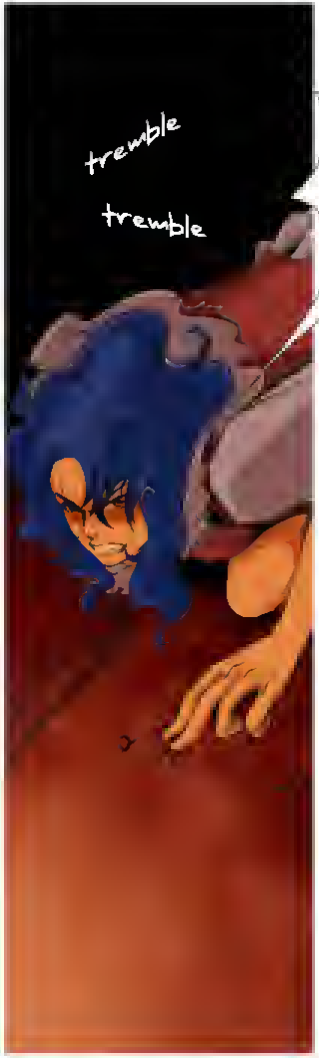
Bloody cannibal –
You take human lives, using their blood as a catalyst.
Perhaps that would allow you to live forever, if we weren't here. But it seems that only the smart ones can do so.
step
step
If, you were planning to survive by hiding underground like a corpse, you should have run off as soon as you were revitalized, you idiot.
TCH...UGH!!

Sfx: whoosh
파앗
YOU LITTLE....?!
Sfx: swish

КУАААА!

...You are more stupid than I thought.
KAAHAK..KAK..!
KUU..!!
Fooling around using magic, did you forget that magic is useless against us Templars?


Don't feel too dejected. The humans in this village that you killed didn't have a chance to scream.


tremble
tremble
ARGH...
TE... TEMPLAR..!!
UGH!!

Now all you can do is cry and beg for mercy! And...
Poise
Pray that you won't be born as a witch in your next life.
EEK..!!

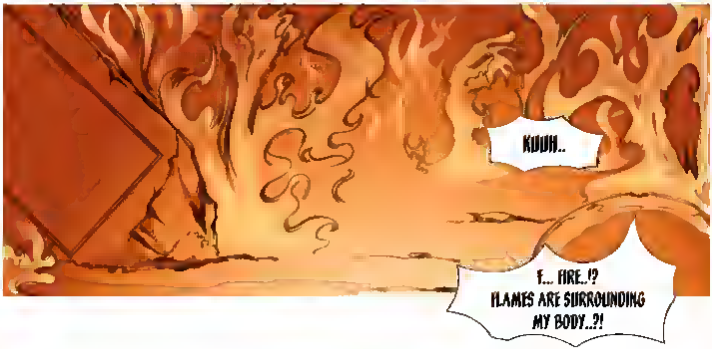
YOU ARE THE ONES THAT NEED TO BEG FOR MERCY!!
파지직
Sfx crackle

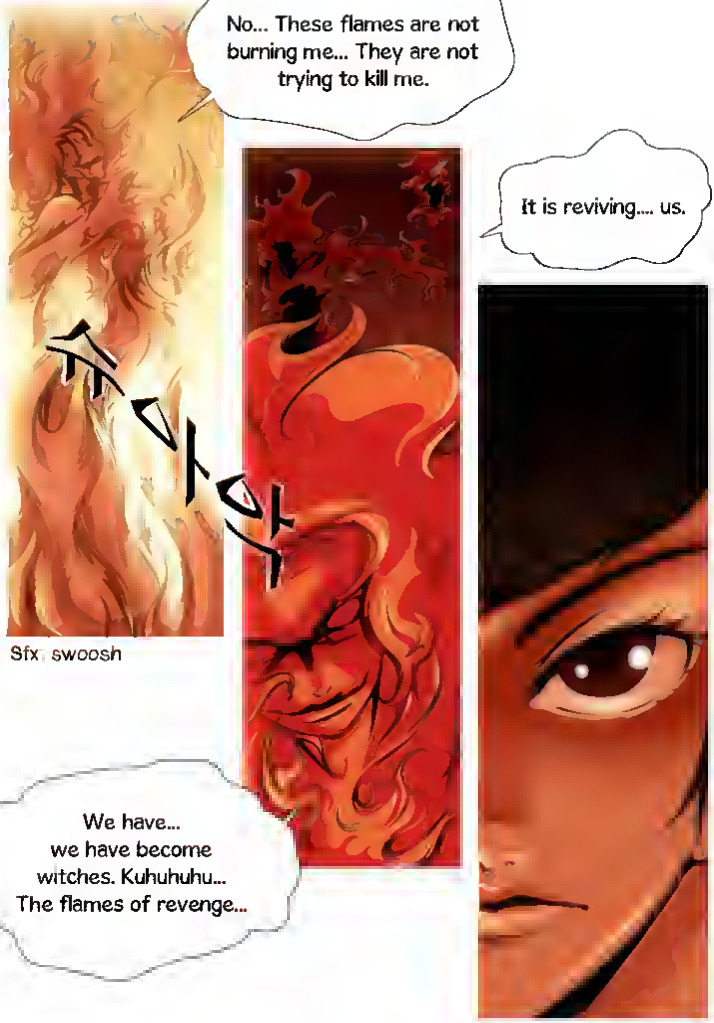
PRAY TO NOT REBORN AS A WITCH?!
YOU WERE THE ONES WHO MADE US ACT THIS WAY! THE THINGS WE HAD TO GO THROUGH BECAUSE OF YOU, JUST BECAUSE WE WERE WITCHES..!

I WILL MAKE YOU PAY FOR MAKING HUMANS, WHO DON'T EVEN KNOW WHAT WE ARE, DESPISE US...
...THROUGH THE HUMANS WHO WERE SLAUGHTERED BECAUSE THEY ARE FRAMED AS WITCHES...!!

화아악

Sfx Whoosh




No... These flames are not burning me... They are not trying to kill me.
It is reviving.... us.
쥬아악
Sfx: swoosh
We have... we have become witches. Kuhuhuhu... The flames of revenge...

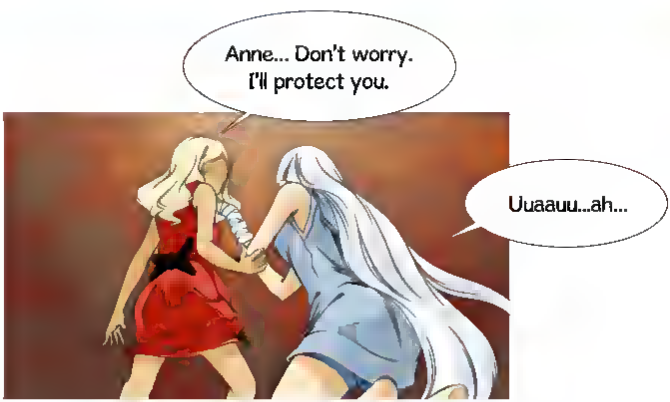
The village...
...Is in flames.
I can't believe it...

Dana said...

There is a real witch in Roselum.

That was real...?

...!!

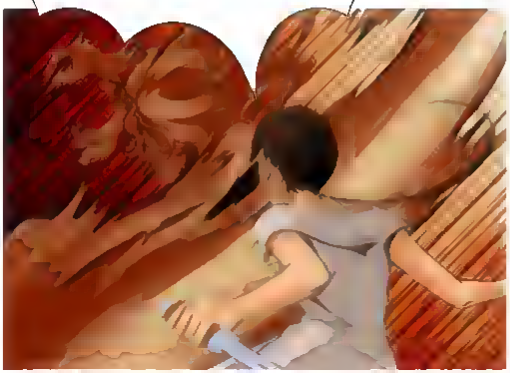

Anne... Don't worry.
I'll protect you.
Uuaauu...ah...

I'll... definitely protect you.
So that nobody can touch you...

So that nobody
can harm you.

It might have been better to stay underground as humans, than to take a hideous form like that.
Poise
WHO WAS THE ONE THAT MADE US THIS WAY?!! WE'LL MAKE EVERYTHING THE SAME WAY!!
화아앗
Sfx swoosh

YOU FRAMED US INNOCENT PEOPLE AS WITCHES AND THREW US IN BURNING FLAMES!!



THEY USED US AS SCAPEGOATS FOR THEIR OWN SINS!!

At the very least, I'll...
REMEMBER YOU AS HUMAN!!
과앙
Sfx: fwoosh

Sfx jump

!!?
휘앙
Sfx swoosh

UGH!
콰앙!
Sfx: Fooom

..!!

In this land, only...

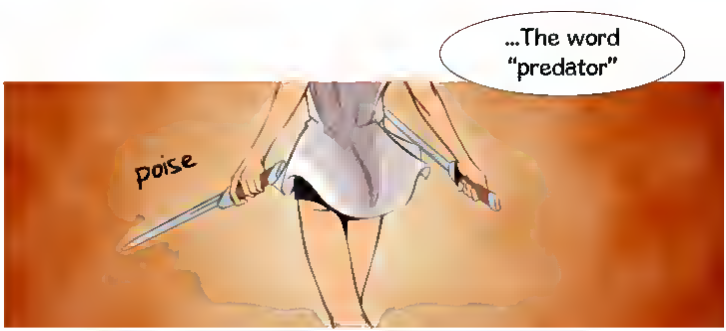
Sfx' turn

비슬

Humans can live.
You all will...

GO BACK TO YOUR GRAVES!!
슈과과광
Sfx: swish
...!!

Sfx: screech
콰가각


...The word "predator"
poise

A foe that cannot be defeated, no matter how many enemies there may be. That is us, the predator of witches, The Templars.
Two or three, mice are still nothing but mice for a cat.

The only thing left for you to do, is to fearfully wait for my blades to dance again...

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yin and yang / good and evil

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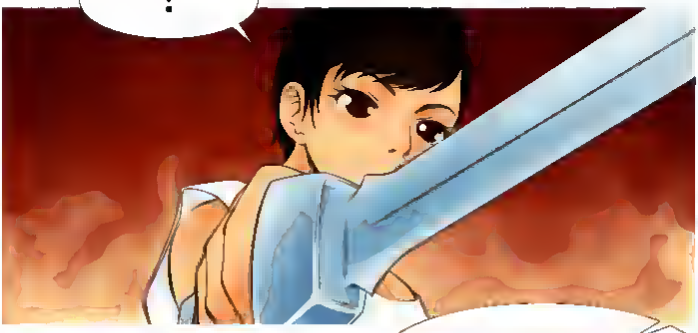
Your first field trip in 600 years, was a bit short, but still pretty enjoyable. Wouldn't you agree?
...
Sadly, this is the end. Even if you blow up this whole island, you still can't beat me. You know that very well right?

...Kukukuk!!

!



Like a cat and mouse...??

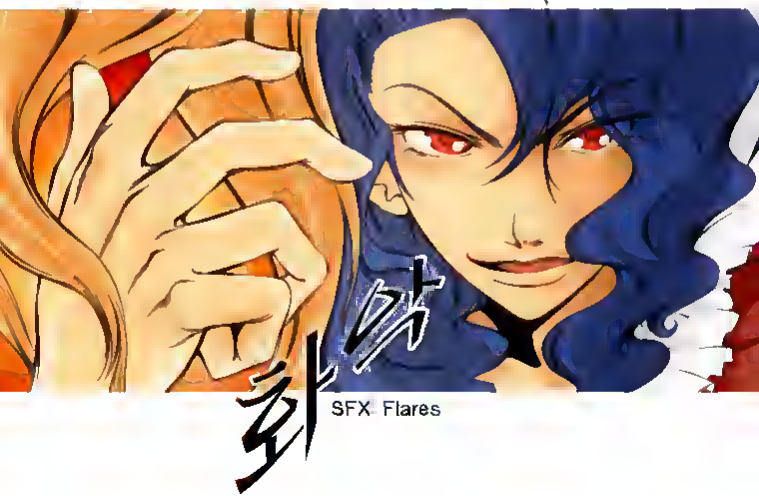
Sure

The cat would like to believe that with a little effort, it can catch the mouse any time without failure...

SFX: Shzzz!

However...

What if I say it's an immortal mouse?

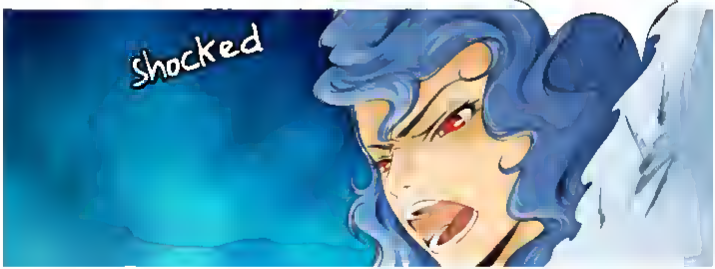


SFX: Flares

KILL IT AGAIN AND AGAIN, BUT IF IT ENDLESSLY RESURRECTS, THEN AT THE END, IT'S THE CAT'S FLESH WHOSE GONNA BE RIPPED APART!!
파아앗
SFX: Fwaaaa
TENS, OR HUNDREDS OF TIMES YOUR CLAWS WILL SLICE THROUGH OUR STOMACHS AND PIERCE OUR BODIES, BUT WE WILL RISE AGAIN AND AGAIN AND POUNCE TO RIP OFF YOUR THROAT!! YOU'LL BE RIPPED APART BY THE TEETH OF THE MICE YOU'VE LOOKED DOWN UPON!

Idiot!

!!?



Do you think I would let you use the same trick twice?
!!?
DON'T YOU DARE LOOK DOWN ON US WHEN YOU'RE JUST A MEASLY WITCH!!

보오옥
DA..DAMMIT!!
GET THE HELL AWAY
FROM ME!!
SFX: Flare
콰콰쾅
SFX: B-b-boom!

Idiot. There's absolutely no merit in teaching you.

I've already told you that such thing as magic...

IS COMPLETELY USELESS HERE!!
촤아악
SFX: Kshhhh
KYAAA!!
...YOU DAMNED BITCH!! AGAIN..!? MY RIGHT ARM... AGAIN...?!!

To capture a savage beast gone berserk, one should first pull out its fangs and claws.

Render it completely unable to ever counter or even run away.

SFX: Kshhhh
KEHEUK!

KE..HEUK!!
UGH...
YOU DAMN BITCH..!!
Sets
That's why I told you to stay put like a good little mouse and just pray.
KE...
KEHEUK!!

PRAY THAT IN YOUR NEXT LIFE, YOU WON'T BE BORN AGAIN AS A WITCH!!

YOU TOO!! YOU GUYS ARE ALSO PLANNING TO DRIVE OUT THE HUMANS AND TAKE OVER THE LANDS!!

YOU FEAR WE WITCHES WILL GET IN YOUR WAY SO YOU PRETEND TO ALLY YOURSELF WITH HUMANS WHEN YOU ARE ALSO HUNTERS...!!?

...ARGH!!!

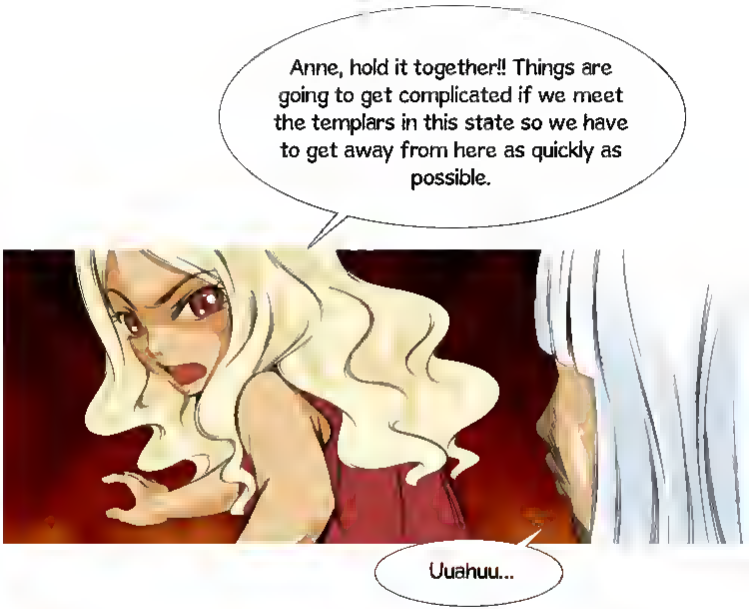
SFX: Grip

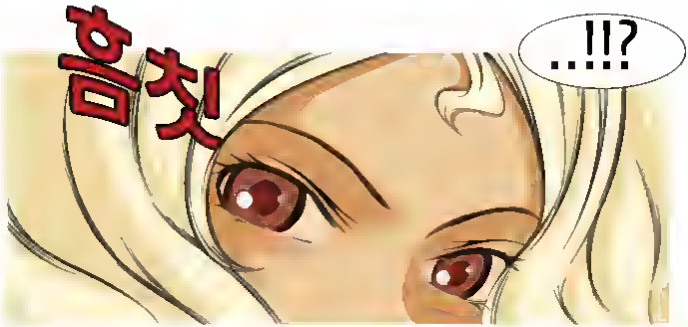
Don't mistake us for beasts like you.

And my role in this is...
To decimate all witches!

Chapter 6

...Uuahh...uu
Uuahhuu..!! Ah ah ah..!!
Shivers
...Damn!!


Anne, hold it together!! Things are going to get complicated if we meet the templars in this state so we have to get away from here as quickly as possible.
Uuahuu...



SFX: Startled

SFX: Dash

...In that burning town...
Dana is...!!!

She's not even answering her phone... Something might have happened to her...!!!

..!!

TH...THAT FOOLISH BRAT!! HE'S JUST A MERE HUMAN AND YET, HE BELITTLES HIS PRECIOUS LIFE SO MUCH...!!

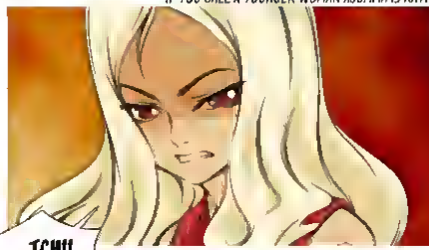
Anne...

SFX: shivers

...Don't worry!! No matter what happens, this Ahjumma* will definitely protect you..!!

...No matter what happens to those mere humans...

T/N: AJUMMA- OLDER WOMAN AROUND MID/LATE 30'S EARLY 50S. IF YOU CALL A YOUNGER WOMAN AJUMMA IS RATHER OFFENSIVE.



...TCH!!

SFX: Kshh Kshhhh

SFX: Crumbles

SFX: Flares

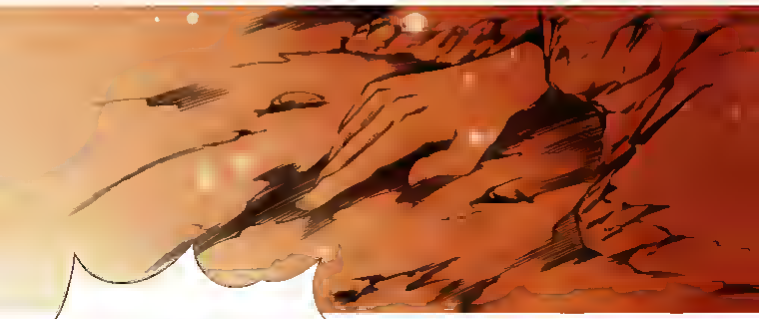
If that's the end of it, then I can probably earn a little time at least.

All that's left is the bloody cannibal...

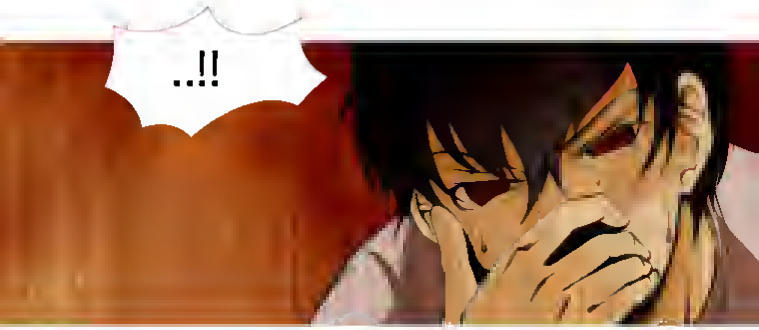
The one who is the source of blood. If I kill the life provider, then, this will just be like burning her at the stakes.

Where are you? ...The human who has become the sacrifice...

...WHERE ARE YOU?!!
...DANA!! IF YOU HEAR ME THEN ANSWER, DANA!!!
...DANA!!
...!?



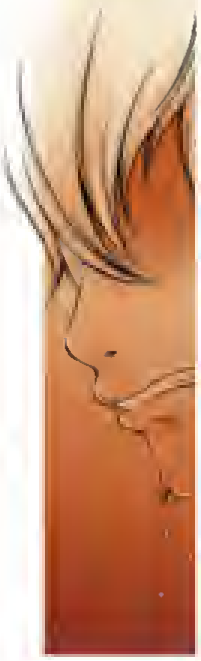
All the townspeople...



I need to find Dana quickly!!

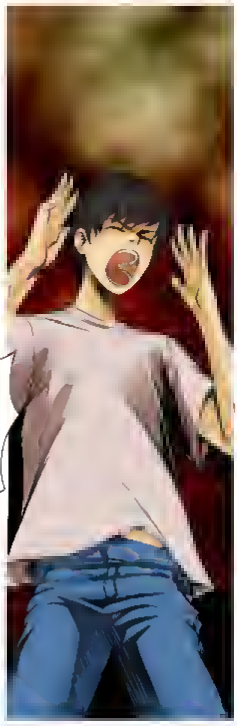
...DANA!!
...ANYBODY!! CAN ANYBODY HEAR ME?!
...DANA!! IF YOU HEAR ME THEN ANSWER!! DANA!!!

...If you hear me then answer..



Dana, you idiot. If you're still alive...

Answer me, dammit...!!



DANA!!

Stop crying...idiot!

When the other kids tease you, you should've tackled head on first and beat them all up! That's what boys do!! Stupid!

Because you're being such a cry baby all the time, nobody wants to play with you!

Okay! Come here then! I will be extra nice and play with you just for today! Hurry!!

Hey!
You idiot!!

A lady makes a gesture first but what are you doing not accepting it?! Are you looking down on me too because I'm a red head?!!

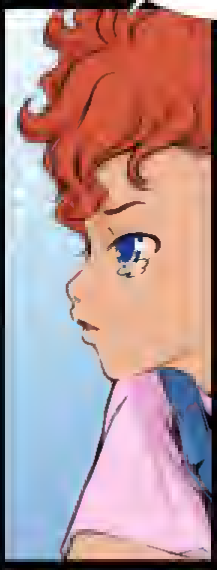
Hit
...WHOA!!
WHOOAAA~
...ACK!!!
Shock

...Owiee...

...I tripped again.

Ow...
it's bleeding...

...It hurts... but there's
no one at home...?!



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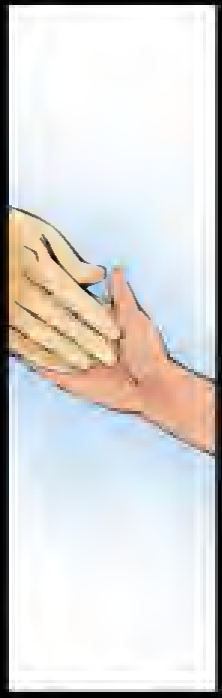
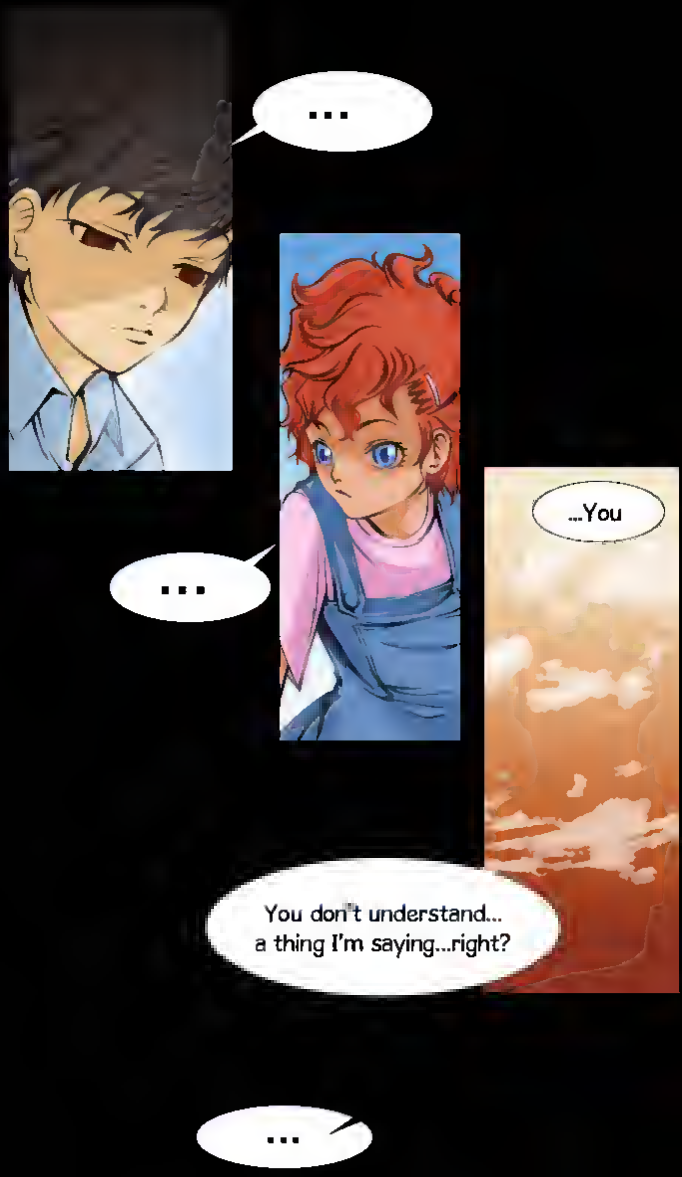


..SO AFTER THAT~ WHEN I GAVE CHARLIE A GOOD SMACK RIGHT ON HIS FACE...
Kyahaha
HE JUST STARTED BAWLING AND HE RAN BACK HOME TO HIS MOMMY~ KYAHAHA~~ SO FROM THEN ON, WHENEVER HE SEES ME HE RUNS FOR THE HILLS~ KYAHAHA~
Kyahaha
...
So, if someone's teasing you again, stop crying and just beat them up


...
...
...You
You don't understand...
a thing I'm saying...right?
...

...ALL RIGHT THEN!

THEN STARTING FROM TOMORROW, I'LL TEACH YOU ENGLISH! I MEAN SPEAKING AND WRITTING!! I'M GOING TO COME FIND YOU EVERY SINGLE DAY SO WHEN I'M CALLING FOR YOU, YOU BETTER COME OKAY?!

IF I HANG OUT WITH YOU EVERY SINGLE DAY THEN YOU WON'T BE ALONE ALL THE TIME EITHER! RIGHT?! COME ON AND HANG OUT WITH ME!!

So you know, just in case...
If I trip again...

You'll definitely need my help once more...

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by Jay-guun

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..Where are you?

Since the main body has fallen, surely it'll target to drain the life force from the victim of Bloody Cannibal!
...I need to detect the magical power from that source! However, it may be a human... If it has already fallen to become the energy source for the witch... I must kill it. There is no other choice but to kill.
The human who will continue on the beatings of a witch's heart...

Where are you?!
Cough cough!!
D...DANA!! IF YOU HEAR ME THEN ANSWER!
Cough cough!! Dana!!
...DA...?!
...Da...na??

DANA!!
SFX: GUOOO
DANA!! WAKE UP ALREADY!

ARE YOU OKAY?! I'M ASKING YOU, ARE YOU OKAY?!
I...I'LL GET YOU OUT OF THERE RIGHT NOW!! JUST HOLD ON FOR A BIT!!
꺄아아!
GAAHHH!!
파지직
SFX. Pzzzttttt

...Uggh...!!! W...What the heck is this?!
I CAN'T... GET ...IN!! GAAAAAHH!! DANA..!!
SFX. PZZZTTTT

... GIVE DANA BACK TO ME!!!!

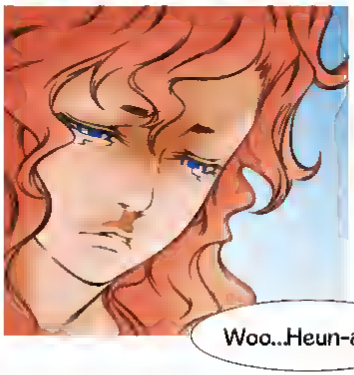
파지직

SFX. PZZZTTTT

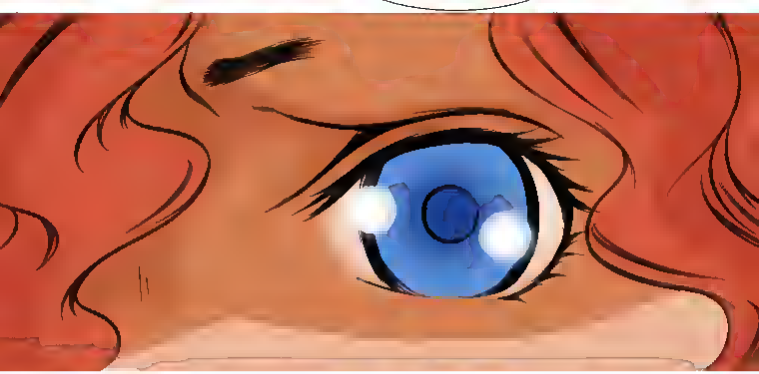
DAMMIT!!!
WHAT THE HECK IS THIS?!
PLEASE...!! PLEASE
GIVE ME...

...BACK DANA!!
PLEASE!!
...GAAHH!!!

...Woo...Heun...



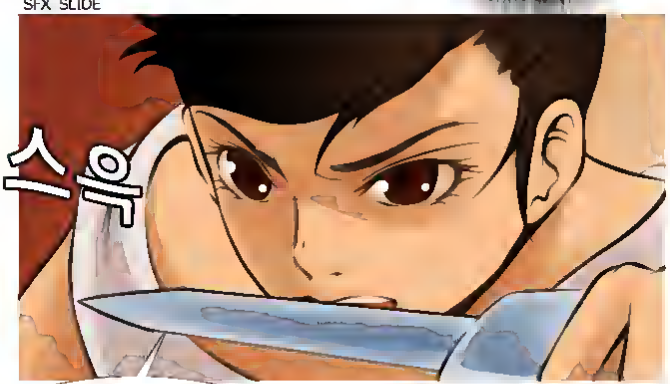
..Woo Heun...



Found it!

The thing of utmost importance to a Templar is to kill the witch, and after that.

SFX SLIDE



...Tch! There are... two!

Kill every other being that has seen a witch, or has any connections to a witch. Kill all those who know the existence of witches!!

SFX. UAAHHHH

BLACK
블랙윈드
WIND
PANDORA
Chapter 7

...Pant pant!
Anne, hurry up!!
They'll catch a whiff on the remains of my powers in your body soon!! We have to get out of here as soon as possible!!
It's too dangerous to deal with them for now!!
TAK TAK TAK
!

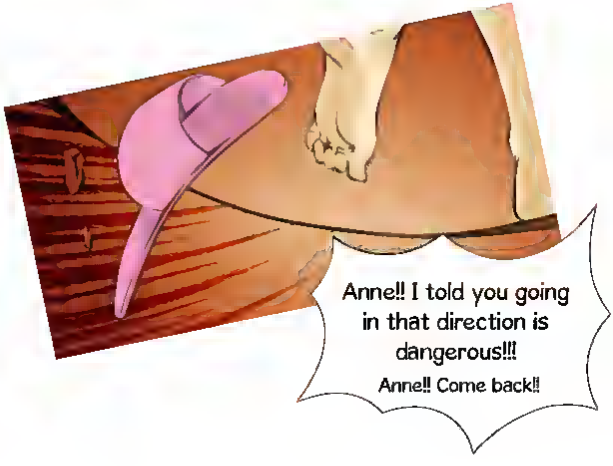
...!!

...Anne?

Anne! What are you doing?! We have to get out of here soon as possible right now!! Anne! Can you not hear what ajumma is telling you?!
...

...Uuah...uuaahuu.
...Hmm?

...UUAHUU UUAH!!
ANNE!! WAIT! WHERE ARE YOU GOING OFF TO?!
타닥
SFX Dash


Anne!! I told you going in that direction is dangerous!!!
Anne!! Come back!!

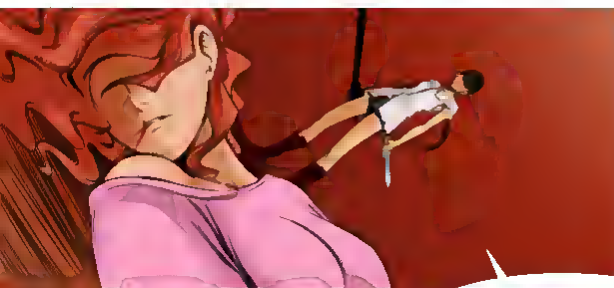
Now...

.. Everything is finally over
That wench probably just turned into dust by now.

...

I apologize... but there was no other way for me than this to completely eliminate the witch.

So... Just try to understand.



Killing you as quickly as possible... that was the best I could do for you.

...Da...Dana..!

SFX: SHAKE SHAKE

Ah...ugghh..!!
Da...Dana!

Dana!! Wa...wake up!!
Da...ughh..Da...na!!
...Dana!!
...Dana!!

So, just in case I trip again

You'll definitely need to help me up once more...

SFX: STAB

Sorry...

My hesitation has prolonged your suffering.

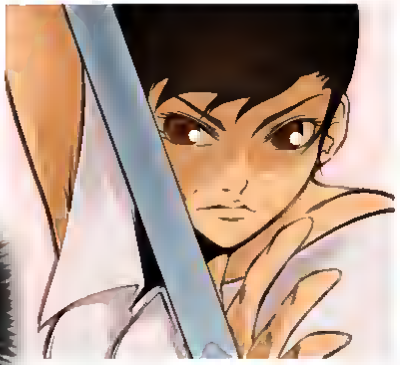
Everything will be over soon... don't move.

... It's not my fault!!

SFX. SWING

SFX. STRIKE

..!!



...Human?

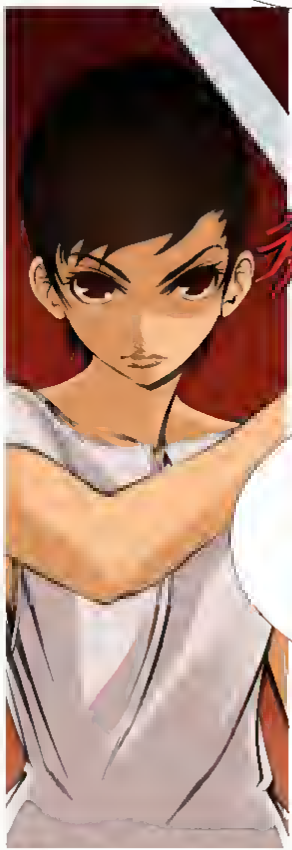
SFX: SHIVERS SHIVERS

..You must've been in their group. Such an unfortunate day today, isn't it? I'm sure all you wanted was to dress up as a witch and have tons of fun at the festival, but...

A real witch had to show up and make everything into such a big mess.

Sigh... I don't have much luck today either.

...Please.

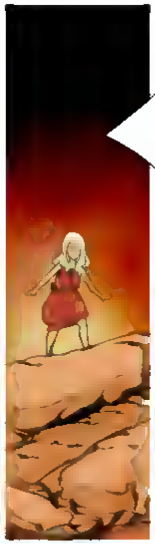


Please help me end this a little more quickly.

SFX: HOLDS UP

SFX: SUUUU

Anne!! Where are you, Anne!?



If you don't listen to what ahjumma says then I'm going to get angry!

Anne!! Where are...!?

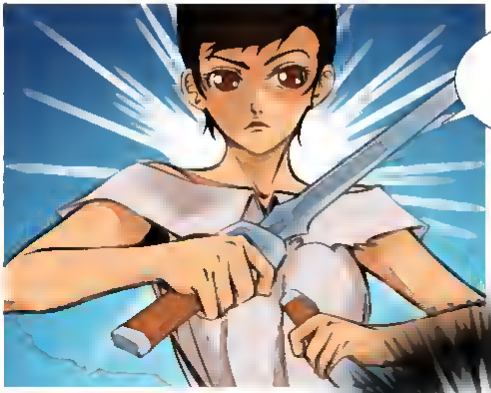
SFX: SHOCK

흠칫

..WITCH-STICK?!

Anne's holding the witch-stick?! Even if she did possess my body it's just not possible for her to use the witch-stick...?!

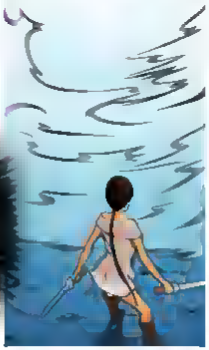
Uuahuu...ohhoh!?
화아아악
SFX: FLARES



...Wh...What is this?!

Th... This woman, that magic .. She's just crazily emitting her magical powers endlessly!!

Also... that broom stick is not just an ordinary one..!!



..Perhaps?!

.. Witch-stick?!
Whether it's a sword, a spear, a bow, or a staff.. it can change its shape to any form its master wishes. Containing an abundance of magical power —the witch's ultimate weapon ..!!

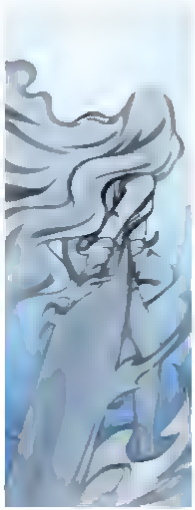
Uuahuu...!!!
I've heard that only the ancient witches wield this power...!!

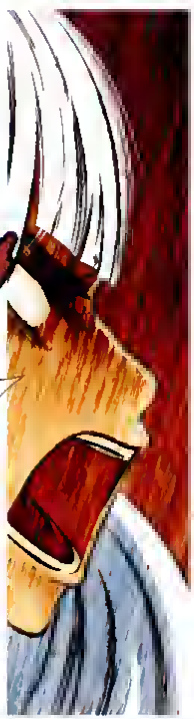
...Hmmph!! It's better this way!
IF MY TARGET IS A WITCH INSTEAD THEN I'LL SLICE THROUGH YOU WITH NO HESITATION AT ALL!!
파앗

SFX: DASH

IT WOULD'VE BEEN BETTER FOR YOU TO RUN AWAY WHILE IT WAS STILL IN ITS BROOMSTICK FORM!

IT'S MUCH MORE FITTING FOR THE LIKES OF YOU!!





ROAR

AAAHH

SFX: SHZOOOM

..!?
Her...Fo...form is not the only change...!!

She changed her magic into a physical form!!
콰지
SFX CRASH

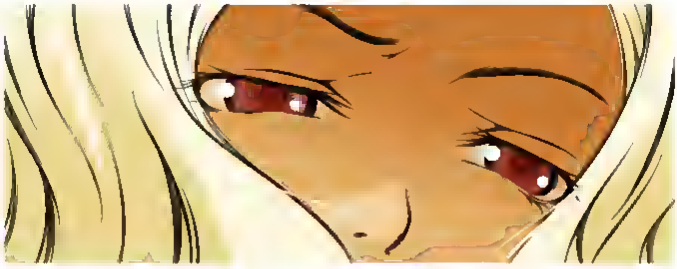
SFX: SKID
끼기기각
This is a witch..!!

Cough cough!!
...Tsk!! It's not even comparable to that idiot from earlier!!
The entity feared by all and who truly should be feared...
Witch!
UUAHUUU

...ANNE!! YOU MUSTN'T!

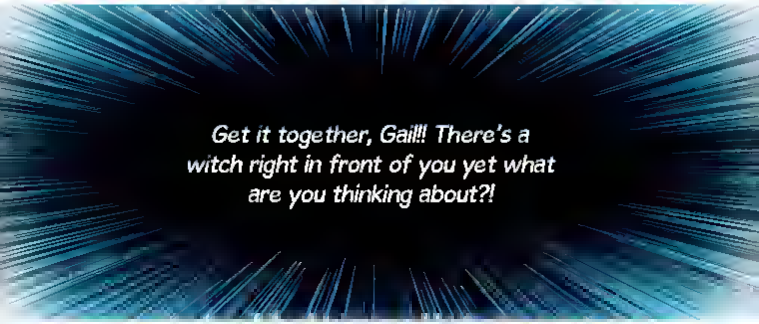
You... You can't call that as using a witch-stick... She's gone berserk... She can't control the remaining power still present in my body...

Anne... please stop.!! We have to run away!! You mustn't become the target of Templars as well... !!

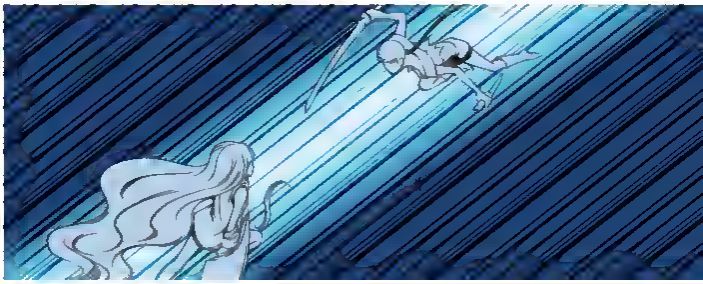


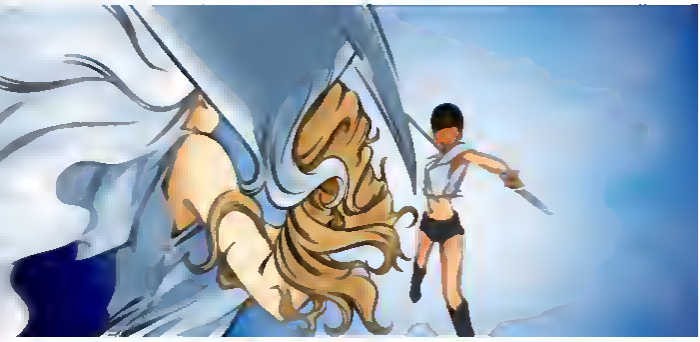
...You can't live a life in the shadows as well... you can't!!

SFX: RIP


Get it together, Gail!! There's a witch right in front of you yet what are you thinking about?!
IF YOUR KIND'S ACT OF INHUMANITY IS CONSIDERED AS A STRUGGLE FOR SURVIVAL THEN I HAVE A JUSTIFIED REASON TO KILL YOU!!

...THOSE WHO HAVE DIED BY YOUR HANDS..!! I'LL NEVER FORGET THEM!!
... I'll do anything to kill them!! Down to every last one of them...!!
Ohhhh

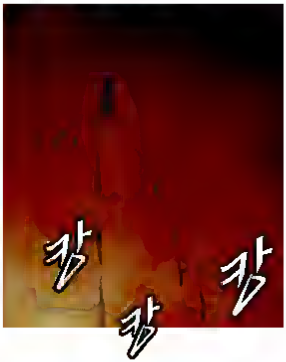




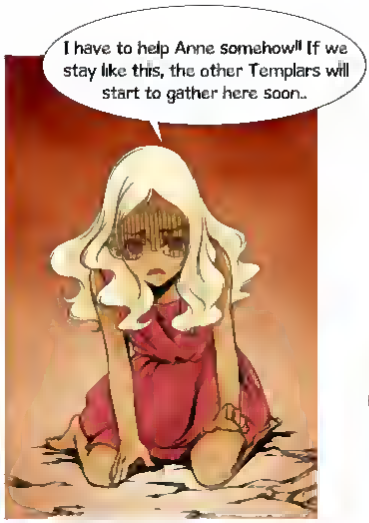
SFX: B-B-OOM

카카캉

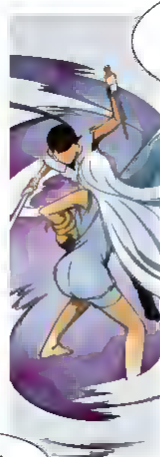
SFX: BOOM BOOM BOOM



...Anne!!

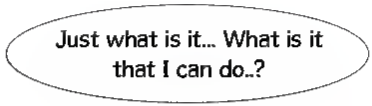

I have to help Anne somehow!! If we stay like this, the other Templars will start to gather here soon..

..How? How...
With a human's body... there is no way... that I can use...magic.


... Even if I do use it... This body won't be able to handle it. I'll just turn to dust.. Then Anne.. all alone...
Anne... sob!!

I gave you my body because I wanted to save you but that backfired on me and became a curse instead!!

Sob sob!! From the Templars... from fate...



If I can't use magic then
Then I'm just a mere human
with a body of a little child..

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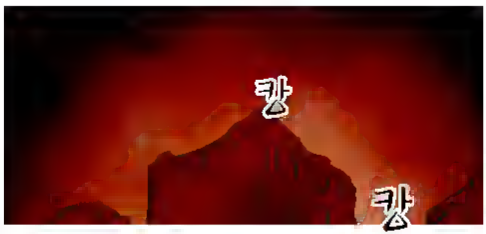
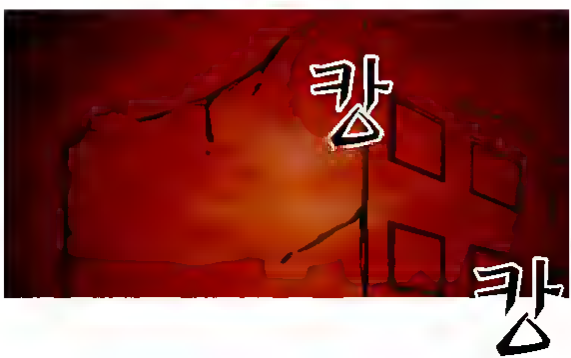


SFX: BOOM

캉



SFX: KA-BOOM

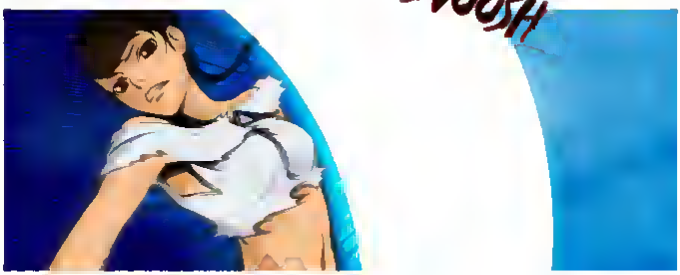
SFX: SPLATTER

GRR..!!

...!!

...GRR
...GRR!!
...Did you think you can win just by recklessly using magic?! You can't even wield it except to furiously slash it around!

... GRR... GRR!!
으아아아
WAHH!
화아앗
SFX. FLARES

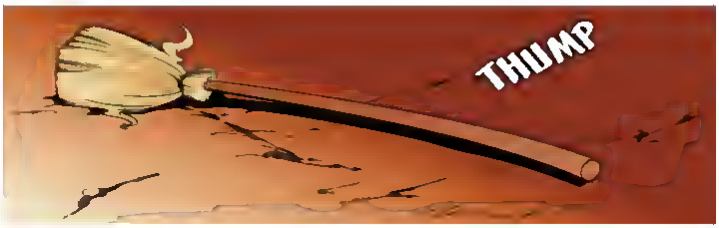

SWOOSH

SFX: RUMBLES
콰과광
... This is the end!

CLAAASH

ATTACK

...!!!
SLIDES
..!!


THUMP

This was a useless struggle from the very beginning.

HOLDS UP
Blame yourself for treading here on your own two feet.

In your next life, pray that you won't be reincarnated as a witch.
OR ELSE I'D HAVE TO KILL YOU AGAIN!

..!?

슈슉

SFX WHOOSH

... WHO'S THERE?!

타앗

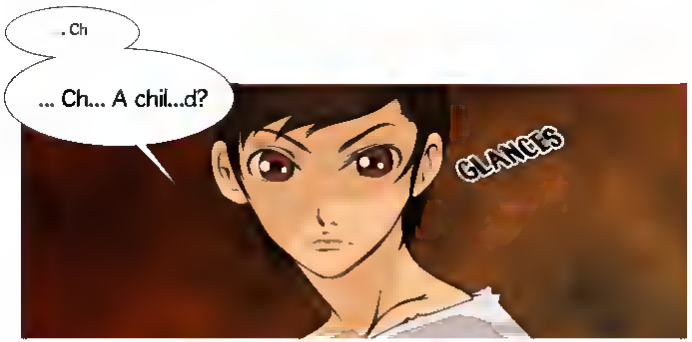
SFX STRIKES

Get away from that child immediately...!!

TIGHTLY GRIPS

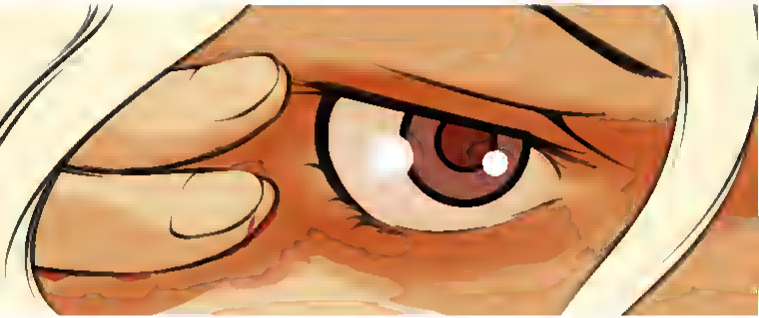
If you don't...

I. AM. GOING. TO. KILL. YOU!!
SLOW RISE
I was foolish...


. Ch
... Ch... A chil...d?
GLANCES

You cunning wench! Don't give me that disgusting look
...
Within that heaps of ash among the dead body, there are those of children too. I'm guessing that you've just silently waited till the whole town burn down even though you knew that that blue haired bitch was going to go berserk.
It's because you didn't want to kill them with your own hands. Because you didn't want to dirty your own hands with blood!!

I vowed to myself I would protect Anne and yet, I was trembling from the fear of death from using magic... How shameful !!
How about you come here and try killing me as well?



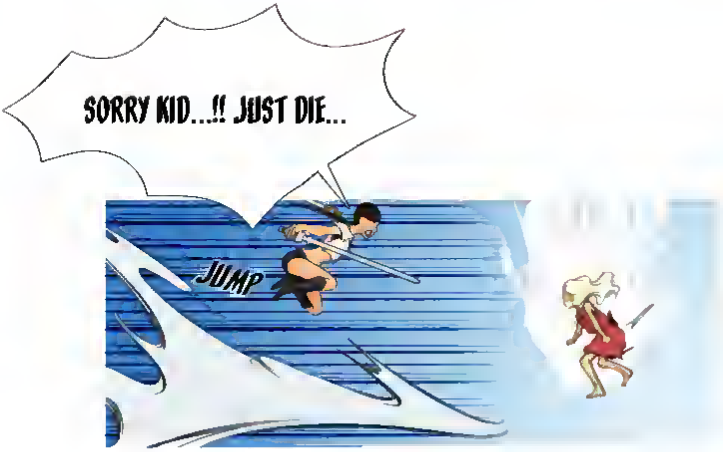
Since I am also a witch!!

SFX. FLARES

Kill!! I must kill her!! As long as she knows about Anne, I must kill her!!

.. Even if that means my body will turn to dust..!!

Tsk! A witch is a witch even is she's a child... Eventually she'll grow up to be a fearful entity.

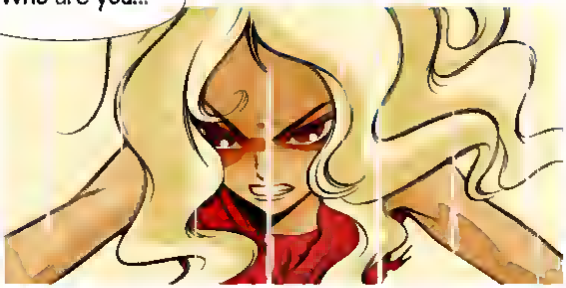

SORRY KID...!! JUST DIE...
JUMP

..!?

지잉

SFX: REVERBERATES

... Who are you...



SFX: FLARES

GAH...
U... UGHH!! H-HOW ..?!
M-MAGIC SHOULD HAVE NO EFFECT ON ME SO... H-HOW?! GAHH... UGH...!!

GAAAHH!!!!
ZZZAAP

Just... just a little longer!!

If I just get rid of this one. just this one, then... Anne should be safe by herself!!

... Tsk!! Is my body going to break apart first?!

SFX: TRICKLES

Anne... Fortunately her wounds doesn't look too deep, her body can probably heal those relatively quickly. When she wakes up, she can flee right away.

... We've finally been reunited but I guess it's separation again soon

Ahjumma will protect you till the end... Now time to turn her into dust... Hmm?!
JUMP
... Who...?!

SFX: FWOOOOSH

SFX: LANDS

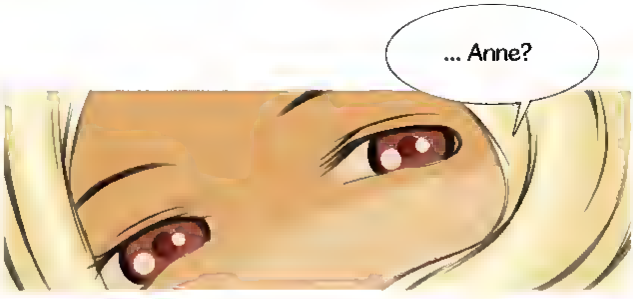
.. He... has has nullified my magic. ?! It can't be..
... Cough cough!! Another t-templar!?
At most... I could barely take out just one but... another?! Damn it...!!
...

SFX: WOOSH

No... This is not time to think about silly things like that... Anne, get up!!

... Anne! ... Anne! Get a hold of yourself
U..Uah..Ah ooh

ANNE!! HURRY AND GET UP!! WE NEED TO GET OUT OF HERE IMMEDIATELY!!
. . . THOSE BASTARDS MAY BE BACK WITH MORE REINFORCEMENTS!! RIGHT HERE, RIGHT NOW..!!
. . . !!AHHH!!!


... Anne?

... Uah uah ooh...
Uaahhhhh ooh!!

... Anne!! Run away!! Hurry!!

Jeanne... Go find Jeanne ahjumma!!

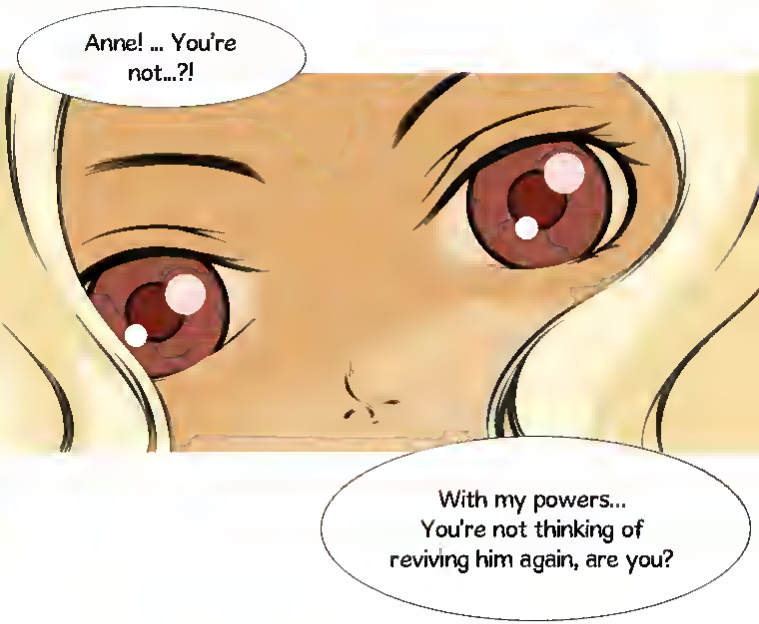
ANNE! STOP IT! THAT GUY'S ALREADY DEAD! I KNOW HOW YOU FEEL! I KNOW THAT THERE HASN'T BEEN ANYONE WHO'S GIVEN YOU SUCH WARMTH IN HUNDREDS OF YEARS!

STILL... ONCE SOMEONE'S DEAD... THEY JUST CAN'T COME BACK!!

UAH OOH!! UAH OOH~!!

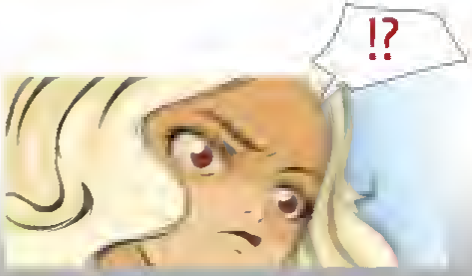
... Jeanne ... I entrust you with

... this child... Anne...
Please protect her...!!



Could it be... the reason that you've waited for me to wake up after hundreds of years was... so that your father... so that Charles could be revived again?!

ANNE! THAT'S JUST RIDICULOUS!! EVEN AS WITCHES, WE JUST DON'T COMMIT THAT KIND OF ACT!!
UAHH OOH.. UAH OOH!!
DO YOU KNOW WHAT THAT WOULD MEAN?! HE'LL BE A HUMAN THAT'S NEITHER ALIVE NOR DEAD .. NO, HE'LL JUST BE A MONSTER THEN!! DO YOU THINK HE WOULD WANT THAT?! JUST LEAVE HIM ALONE! OTHER HUMANS WILL COME AND HE CAN BE BURIED PROPERLY SO JUST..!!



. So. that was the reason...

The blood... that revived me...
was the blood of that human...

Damn it...!!

...

...and another news story,

An explosion has been reported in Roselurn, a popular tourist site that is also known as the "witches' island". There have been a high number of casualties reported due to the festival that was being held in Roselurn during this incident. Due to the local festival's policy of restricting motored vehicles,

The delayed report of the accident contributed to a greater degree of damage. Meanwhile, the local police are investigating for a possibility of this being a terrorist attack due to religious reasons.

... Yes, it's been taken care of.

... She should be the last remaining witch on Roselum... Yes, due to the ongoing rampant in the middle of the town, all humans involved have died.

... However, another witch, seemingly not from this area, has also been spotted. No, we have not yet made an engagement.

... Yes. I understand that that was my orders.

... I understand. The target was the bigger problem than the witch. Yes, the target has also been eliminated. We've also found traces of contact with someone else.

Oh... the body...

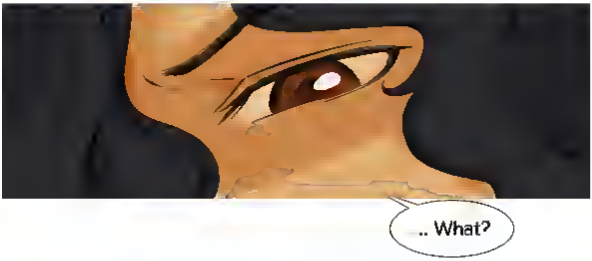
... As I've mentioned earlier, there was a drawback due to an encounter with another witch. An accompanying templar has been injured; however, it is not serious.

Yes, We will send someone to retrieve the target's body.
Yes, all right...

...
... Hey, wake up. A youngster like you should be working hard during the day, why are you still in bed?
...
... Geil! Wake up!
Ugh... hh..

DROP3
... Change your clothes already. That's not a good look for you. Hurry. We need to leave soon.

Arle...


.. What?

We...

We're fighting against the witches so that the humans will be the sole survivors on this land, right?

You know, more and more, I get... a bit skeptical about this.

... You're just confused from all the words the enemy planted in your head. Well, isn't it natural?

When they find out about the existence of witches, then sooner or later, they'll know about us as well Do you think that they will willingly accept us?

.. But what will happen afterwards?

Listen up, Geil. If you want to play the hero that beats up all the bad witches and rescue all the humans, then just get the hell out of here immediately.

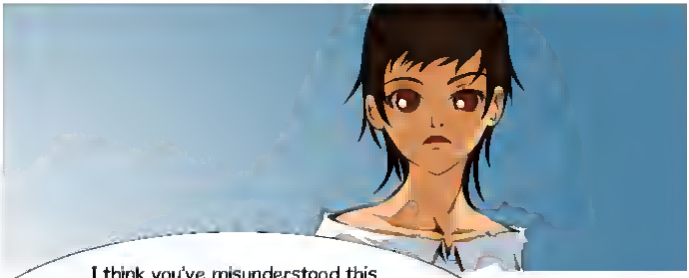
There are no heroes in this world. "Someone to fight for me, someone to die for me", in order to justify ourselves, we name them "heroes".

After the battle against the witches, when they are all eliminated... the next target becomes you. Don't you know the fates of those that humans call "heroes"?

You thought that was an act of saving a human? Geh. I didn't think you were foolish to that extent.

... 12 years ago, when the witch appeared, you were the sole survivor, weeping among the rubbles. Do you really not know the reason?

Do you think your invincibility against magic comes from templar training and techniques that you've mastered to kill witches?
Wrong. You've survived because the blood of the templars flows within you. I didn't save you.



I think you've misunderstood this because you were born and raised among humans, but templar doesn't denote a class, nor an organization. Humans, witches and us, templars, all share the same root but we evolved differently from each other.

Yes, I think the word evolution fits perfectly.

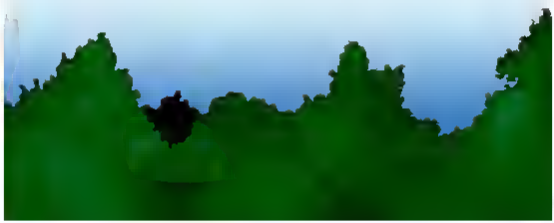
In order to survive, witches were equipped with power that could crush the humans instantly. On the other hand, templars were equipped with power that could counter those of witches--invincibilty against magic. Humans may be the weakest, however, they've equipped themselves with weapons forged from their power of knowledge. I mean, we can be killed with a single gunshot or a bomb

Isn't it amazing? Everything else evolves from survivability; however, our evolution comes from the need to eliminate each other.
Heh, perhaps, that may be the way for survival.

Now you understand how silly it is to mercilessly slay a witch, yet hesitate to slay a human, right?

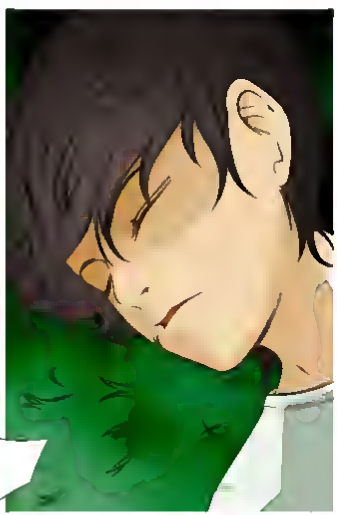
If you understand then hurry up. We don't have any time for chit chats. We need to catch the next boat ride, there's a storm approaching soon.

Two coffins have been opened...



One coffin left destruction
and deaths on this place.

..!



... Ah ooh...!!

Ah ooh... Ah oohh!!
... Se... Ooh...!!

What the other coffin has left on this place...

What could it be...?

-End

for And